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ABSTRACT

This 1997 Minnesota Kids Count report examines child poverty and changing demographics in the state of Minnesota, and focuses on nine risk indicators for the years 1991 through 1995 in Minnesota's 87 counties. Following a discussion of myths and truths about poverty in Minnesota and a look at demographic changes in the state from 1990 to 1995, findings related to the following risk indicators are analyzed and presented by county in tabular form: (1) children receiving AFDC; (2) children eligible for free or reduced-price school lunch; (3) children born to teenage mothers; (4) children born at low birth weight; (5) children dropping out of school; (6) children arrested for violent crime; (7) children abused and neglected; (8) children in out-of-home placements; (10) children dying violently. Section 2 provides state and county profiles of the same risk indicators. Trends that emerge from five (or in some cases, four) years of data are: an increase in arrests of juveniles for violent crimes; a slow increase the percentage of children dropping out of school; a slow but steady increase in the percentage of children born to teenagers, compared to the decreasing national rate; and, since 1993, a decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC. Contains data notes, a list of other resources, and end notes. (DR)

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Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look
1997 Data Book

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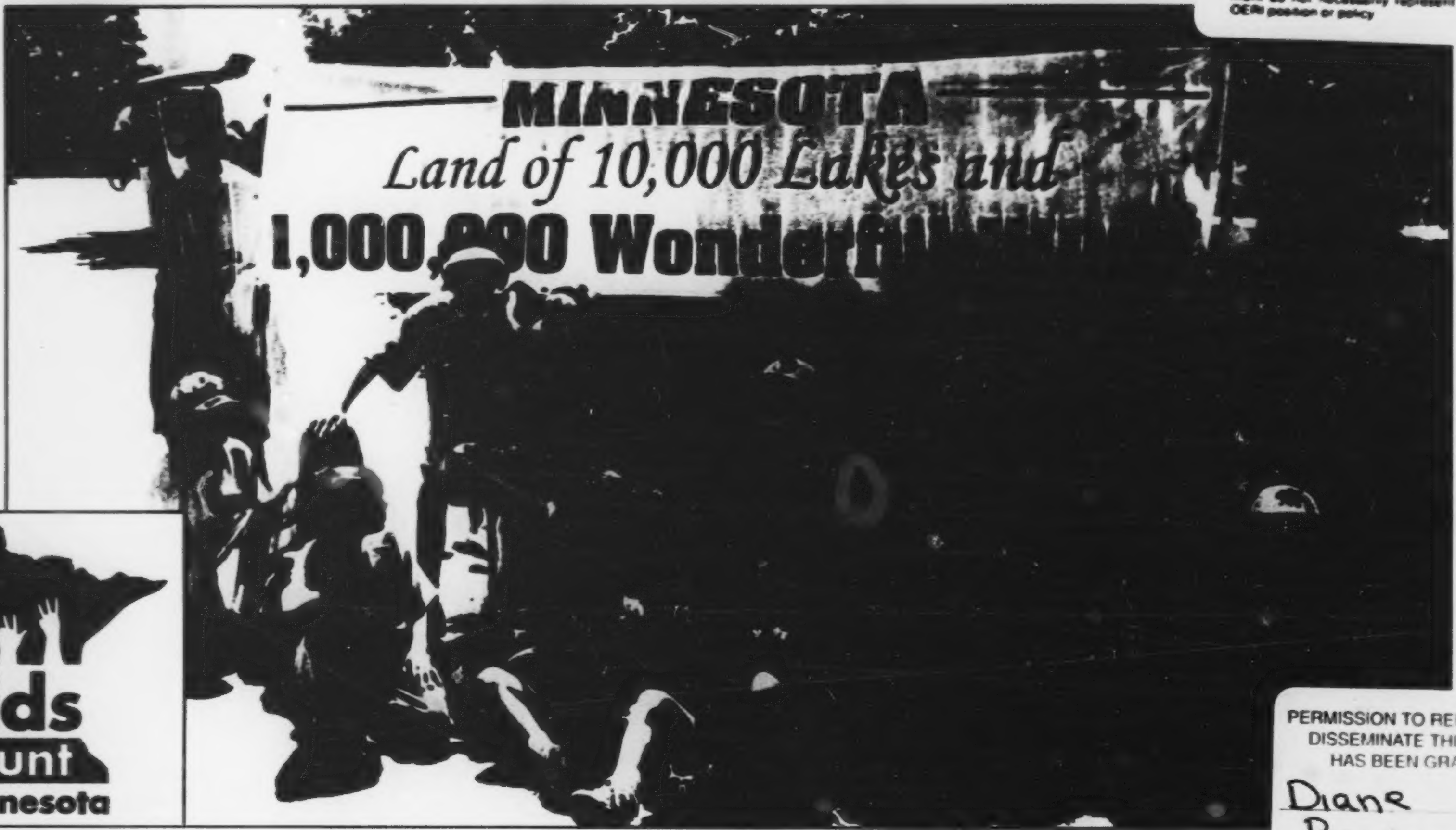

kids count minnesota

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Joint Religious Legislative Coalition.

Minnesota KIDS COUNT releases periodic reports and an annual data book to provide a statistical profile of Minnesota's children and suggestions for action on their behalf. This data book was made possible through funds provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgments i

How to Use This Book 1

Introduction 2

Discussion Questions 4

A New Look at Child Poverty 6

Changing Demographics in Minnesota 7

Section 1: Indicators of Risk

- Children Receiving AFDC 8
- Children Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch 10
- Children Born to Teenage Mothers 12
- Children Born at Low Birth Weight 14
- Children Dropping Out of School 16
- Children Arrested for Violent Crime 18
- Children Abused and Neglected 20
- Children in Out-of-Home Placements 22
- Children Dying Violently 24

Section 2: County Profiles

- Statewide Profile 26
- County Profiles 28-114

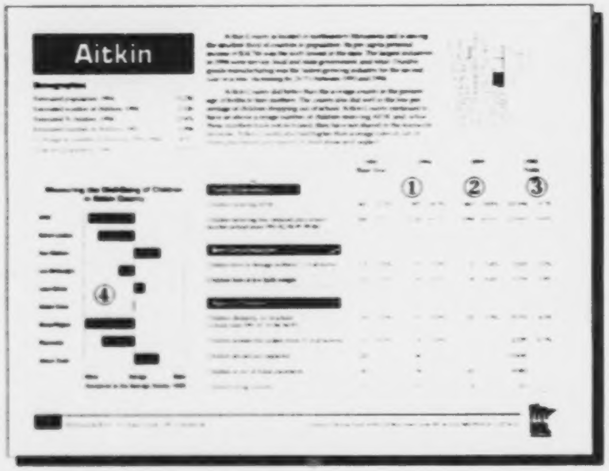
Data Sources 115

Resources 117

Order Form 119

Survey 121

Sample County Page



How to Read the Tables

① **Number of children.** It helps to know the actual number of children affected by a problem, as well as the percentage. Very small numbers in a category may fluctuate significantly from year to year, making interpretation difficult.

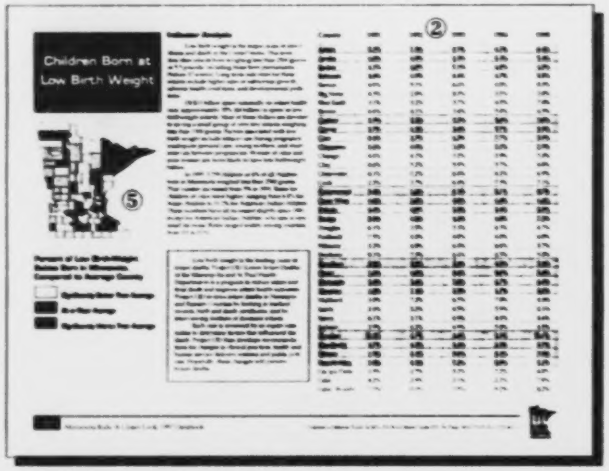
② **Percent of children** (compared to total population, total births, total school enrollment, etc.) Unless the number of children is very small, percentages provide useful comparisons across time.

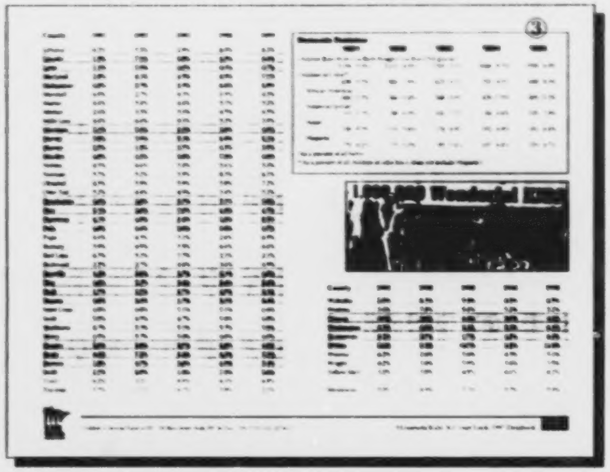
③ **State Average.** This number compares a county to the state as a whole.

④ **Bar Charts.** These charts allow comparisons of different indicators within a county. At a glance, a county can be compared to the "average county." (For more detail about the bar charts, please see the data notes at the end of the book.)

⑤ **Map.** The map ranks counties in thirds, allowing for regional comparisons. It can also help determine if a problem is concentrated in certain areas of the state.

Sample Indicator Pages





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INTRODUCTION

The 1997 KIDS COUNT Data Book once again examines the well-being of children in Minnesota. This year, we looked at nine indicators for the years 1991 through 1995. What are a few of the trends that emerge in five (or in some cases, four) years of data?

1. **Arrests of juveniles for violent crimes of aggravated assault, rape, murder and armed robbery continue to increase.** This increase occurs in both the number of children arrested (from 1,382 in 1991 to 2,225 in 1994) as well as the percent of violent crimes which are committed by children (24% in 1991 to 31% in 1994.) It is important to note that the percent of all arrests of children that were for violent crime (as opposed to less violent crimes) has remained relatively steady at about 3.5%.

This increase has profound implications for our juvenile corrections system as well as our communities. Juvenile crime is a "late stage" problem, a problem that reflects a whole series of unsolved difficulties throughout a child's earlier life. Perpetrators of juvenile crime are also victims — victims of earlier failures to raise and nurture healthy, well-functioning adolescents.

2. **The percentage of children of children dropping out of school is increasing slowly.** In 1991, 3.5% of Minnesota students dropped out of school. In 1995, that number was 4.1%, or one out of every twenty-five students. (This rate declined in 1993 due to a change in how the rate is calculated, but has risen again since that time.) The cumulative dropout rate for the class of 1996 (that is, the total percentage of students that dropped out from each grade level) was nearly 22%. All of these rates are significantly higher for children of color in Minnesota.

Given the rapid pace at which society is demanding workers with sophisticated job skills, the decreasing availability of well-paying, low-skill jobs, and the recent demands to work placed on welfare recipients, these school dropouts are headed for further failure. On this most basic indicator of school success, Minnesota schools are failing too many students.

3. **The percentage of children born to teenagers continues to increase.** This slow but steady increase, from 2.7% of all births to 3.2% of all births, represents 2,023 children having children in 1995. Nationally, the rate of teen births is declining, although it has remained relatively the same in Minnesota. Hopefully, we will share in that national decrease in the future.

4. **The number of children receiving AFDC decreased since 1993.** As the economy has continued to improve, the number of families receiving AFDC has decreased, prior to any large scale welfare reform. In 1993, 125,260 children received AFDC. By 1995, that figure dropped to 121,694, and has decreased still further in 1996 (a year not covered in this publication). Even so, in 1995 nearly one in ten Minnesota children received AFDC.

AFDC rates tell us something about poverty in Minnesota, but they don't tell the whole story. Many poor children do not receive AFDC because their parents are already working. With welfare reform just ahead, far fewer children will eventually receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) the replacement program for AFDC. Since this program will differ from AFDC, it will no longer serve as a very useful indicator of the economic status of children.

The other indicators of child well-being changed little, or the trends have varied up and down. In brief:

The percentage of children receiving free/reduced price school lunch has changed little in five years. **About one quarter of school-age children are below 150% of poverty level and qualify for free and reduced school lunches.**

The percentage of children born at low birth weight fluctuated down and then up from 1991 to 1993 and has increased slowly the last two years. Future years will show if this is a sustained trend. **About one out of every sixteen children born in 1995 were underweight.**

Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect have also fluctuated over the last five years, increasing in 1992 and 1993, and decreasing in 1994. **Each year, over 10,000 children are verified by their county to have been abused or neglected by their parents or caregivers.** Of course, many children are neglected or abused and it is never reported. Other cases are reported, but the investigation does not find adequate proof.

Out-of-home placement, or placements of children in foster care, treatment facilities and group homes, declined sharply in 1995 after a steady and steep rise from 1991 through 1994. However, much of this change is due to a policy shift about the placement of adolescents in the largest county, Hennepin. **In 1995, preliminary figures indicate that 18,500 children were in out-of-home placements.**

Finally, in 1995, 210 children died violently, of murder, suicide, car crashes or other injuries such as falls and drowning. The largest category of these deaths is car crashes, followed by other injuries. From 1991 to 1995, 420 Minnesota children died in auto accidents, 313 died from other injuries. One hundred and twelve children were murdered during that time, and 144 took their own lives.

Over the last five years, few of these changes are very dramatic, but the cumulative impact is significant. The question for every citizen, politician and parent to ask themselves is: Are we satisfied? Is it acceptable that over 10,000 children were reported as abused, that over 2200 children assaulted, raped or killed someone last year, that 3700 babies were born too small? What percentage of our children are expendable?

Things change when we make a commitment to change them. Improving the status of children in Minnesota will take a sustained commitment of public and private funding. It will take a renewed commitment to involvement by neighbors, relatives, teachers, caregivers and others who can touch the lives of children one by one. It will take a focused commitment to long-term, prevention strategies rather than quick fixes or one-shot solutions. Most of all, it will take a firm commitment to a vision of a time when this data book is unnecessary because all of our children are adequately loved, protected and nurtured.

Discussion Questions for Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look, 1997 Data Book

These questions are designed for you to use as an individual reader or for group discussion. The questions suggest ways to think about and then use the large amount of information about children in this book. These questions are only a suggested outline. You know best how this data book can be used in your work and community.

DATA

1. Look at a specific indicator that particularly interests you. (Indicators are found on pages 8-25.) Is the data what you expected for Minnesota as a whole? How do counties compare with each other? Consider these factors:
    - the number of children affected
    - the percent change over time
    - differences among counties
    - differences among children of different races (For more information about data for children of color, please see page 6.)
    - what the indicator measures (See Data Sources, pages 115-116.)

2. Look at the indicators for the county where you live. (Counties are found on pages 28-114.) Is the data what you expected in your county? How does your county compare with Minnesota? Consider these factors:
    - the number of children affected
    - the percent change over time

    What factors might be involved in creating this picture and what do these numbers tell you about your county? Consider these factors:
    - the mix of your county's population between urban, suburban and rural
    - special efforts and programs addressing a particular program
    - greater or lesser community awareness about a problem
    - economic changes in the county over the last three years
    - population changes over the last three years
    - difficulties with data collection

3. As you review this information, what is missing? Is there additional information that would be useful, and is it available elsewhere? (A list of additional resources is on page 117.) For assistance locating data about a particular issue, call Children's Defense Fund-MN at 612/227-6121.

4. The indicators in this data book tend to focus on problems for children. Are there ways to also measure positive indicators of children's well-being in your community? Has your community taken steps to support families and provide opportunities for children?

COMMUNITY

5. Communities can be thought of in many different ways. While the data in this book is primarily grouped by county, there are other ways to work with this information within smaller communities. Examples of other communities include: regional, religious, cultural, or based on a special interest.
    - Who do you see as making up your community?

- Is it the same community you grew up in? A different community?
- What do you know about the children in your community?
- What makes your community a good place for children to grow up?

6. People are involved in their communities in many different ways.
   - How would you describe your role in your community?
   - How are children involved in your community?
   - Are you involved in decision making for your community and how?

CREATING CHANGE

7. This data is compiled to tell us about Minnesota's children, including how communities and individuals can improve their lives.
   - Who in your community is interested in this information?
   - How do you already work together for the benefit of children in your community?
   - What has already been accomplished in the areas that most concern you?
   - Where are decisions about children made for your community? (For example: city councils, foundations, county boards, school boards.)
   - How can community members influence decision making?
   - What other directions might we need to follow to be advocates for children?

8. Not everyone reading this book will already be active as a children's advocate. Not everyone knows how to get involved in making changes happen.
   - Would you like to be involved in improving the lives of children?
   - Who do you already know who is working in this area?

   To receive the monthly CDF newsletter, call the Children's Defense Fund at 612/227-6121. To become a Child Advocacy Network Member, call Congregations Concerned for Children at 612/870-3670.

9. We need you to help us reach more people and make this data widely available.
   - Who else needs to have access to the information in this book?
   - Who else needs to be educated on the factors that improve or diminish children's lives? How can you reach them?

Please contact our office, and ask us to send informational materials. We are also available to speak to your group or organization. You can call us at Congregations Concerned for Children (612/870-3670) or write to us at Congregations Concerned for Children (address in the resource section).

A New Look at Poverty

In late 1996, a new publication from the Population Reference Bureau explored some myths and truths about poverty in America by reexamining available national data. While this information is not specific to Minnesota, it can help improve our understanding of poverty, especially among children and their families.

Anti-Poverty Programs Do Help

Despite claims to the contrary, anti-poverty programs do help people who are in poverty. In 1994, means-tested government cash benefits lifted about 3 million people in the U.S. out of poverty, lowering the poverty rate by 1 percentage point over what it would have been. The Census Bureau estimates that the poverty rate would be at least 3 percentage points lower if all non-cash government benefits, such as food stamps, were counted as cash income.

Another non-cash benefit is the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). This is a federal program which provides low-income workers with a tax break so they may retain more of their earnings. (Minnesota provides an additional state tax credit called the Working Family Credit.) It is estimated that the poverty rate for children under age 18 is 1.5% lower in 1994 when EITC benefits are considered as income.

Who Is Poor?

Myth: People are poor because they do not want to work.
Truth: About 40 percent of the poor are under age 18 and another 10 percent are age 65 and older. This means that half of the poor are not in the working ages. Also, about 30 percent of the working-age poverty population worked for 27 or more weeks during 1994 but earned below-poverty wages.

Myth: Poor families are trapped in a cycle of poverty.
Truth: Only 12 percent of poor people remain in poverty for five or more consecutive years. Also, about a third of those who are poor in a given year will move out of poverty by the following year.

Myth: The majority of the poor are African Americans or Hispanics.
Truth: Non-Hispanic whites make up 48 percent of the poor, while African Americans make up 27 percent, and Hispanics 22 percent. People of color are disproportionately poor compared to their proportion of the total population, but the majority of poor people are white.

Myth: Welfare programs for the poor are straining the federal and state budgets.
Truth: All assistance programs for low-income families and individuals are expected to cost the federal government about $217 billion in Fiscal Year 1996, which is about 14 percent of projected federal expenditures for that year. About 43 percent of the budget goes to other types of payments to individuals such as Social Security, Medicare, and military and federal pensions, which benefit many middle-class Americans. In Minnesota, Family Support payments, which includes AFDC, Child Care and other assistance programs, were 2% of the budget in Fiscal Year 1996.

Demographic Changes in Minnesota from 1990 - 1995

Minnesota has experienced rapid population and economic growth from 1990 to 1995. The average annual rate of population growth through that time was 1.1%, the highest since the 1960's. Although the population is aging and birth rates are low, more people are moving into Minnesota than are moving out.

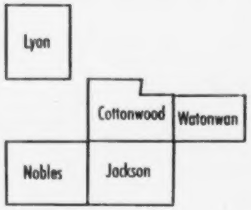
This increase in population has not happened evenly throughout the state. Forty-eight counties lost population, primarily in the southern and western parts of the state. These declines were smaller than population losses in the 1980's, however. Counties around the Twin Cities core had the largest increase in population.

Between 1990 and 1994, the state saw an 8% increase in jobs. Job growth varies from county to county but was especially strong in suburban counties near the Twin Cities, and several counties in north-central Minnesota.

African American, Hispanic, Asian and American Indians increased their proportion of Minnesota's population to 8.4%. Their rates of growth were 57% for Hispanics, 46% for African Americans, 46% for Asians and 21% for American Indians. In contrast, the white non-Hispanic population grew by 3% during that time.

Minnesota also experienced a gain of about 7,000 people each year due to international immigration. The largest number of immigrants continue to be Southeast Asian, including Cambodian, Hmong, Laotian and Vietnamese. An estimated 63,800 refugees from Southeast Asia make Minnesota their home. The second largest group of immigrants comes from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. About 5,000 immigrants come from this part of the world. Recently, many refugees from Somali, the Sudan and Ethiopia have moved to Minnesota. Some of them have settled in smaller cities, including Rochester, Marshall, Willmar and Worthington.

Southwestern Minnesota - A Case Study of Changing Populations

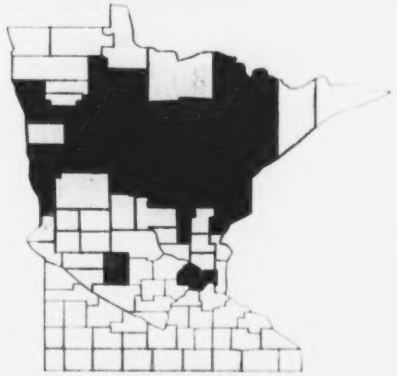


Cottonwood, Jackson, Lyon, Nobles and Watonwan counties, in the far southwest corner of Minnesota, are a good example of the changing demographics in the state. In 1980, these five counties had populations that were between 91% and 99% white. By 1995, these rates ranged from 88% to 96% white, with a continued decrease projected in the future.

New immigrants to the region are primarily Hmong, Laotians, Somalians and other East Africans, and Chicanos from Mexico and the southwestern United States. Most newcomers are drawn by a rapidly expanding poultry industry looking for inexpensive labor for jobs that are unappealing to local residents.

These new residents are having an impact on education, housing, law enforcement and social welfare systems. Traditionally homogeneous, rural communities have struggled to incorporate newcomers, with mixed results. As a recent publication notes: "Members of host communities — who forget that they themselves are the grandchildren of recent arrivals and members of diverse cultures — have no clear idea of who the newcomers are, how many are in the region, and whether they will stay. They have no model, even if their own families were once immigrants with similar experiences, to understand how these newcomers may live generations in a place, while heart and home are elsewhere for them."

Children Receiving AFDC



Percent of Children Receiving AFDC in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐	Significantly Better Than Average
■	At or Near Average
■	Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) provides support to children and their adult caretakers, usually because of the absence of a child's father. The program also aids a smaller number of two-parent families where both parents are unemployed. In fiscal year 1995, the average grant to a family was $400 per month.

In 1997, AFDC will be replaced by TANF, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families. Federal money available for TANF will be capped, and many participants will be subject to a five-year lifetime limit on receiving benefits. Benefits will also be unavailable for legal immigrants. Minnesota will also be expected to have an increasing number of recipients in work or work-related activities each year. Approximately three out of every five people receiving AFDC are children, and these children will need child care if their parents are working.

Minnesota is a national leader in welfare reform design with the anti-poverty-based Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). Important MFIP strategies for moving families out of poverty are making work pay, providing support for child care, and developing individualized employment plans. Evaluation of MFIP shows that a significantly higher percentage of single parent MFIP participants are combining work and welfare, or are leaving welfare, than are AFDC recipients. During the 1997 legislative session, lawmakers will implement the requirements of the federal legislation, and CDF will work to expand MFIP and create the best possible program within the federal limitations.

Nationally, AFDC participation has declined, and Minnesota has shared in that trend. In 1995, 121,694 Minnesota children received AFDC, or approximately 9.7% of all children. Only nine counties had an increase in the number of children receiving AFDC between 1994 and 1995. Almost 50% of the children receiving AFDC are children of color, reflecting higher rates of poverty in those communities.

County	FY1991	FY1992	FY1993	FY1994	FY1995
Aitkin	15.0%	16.4%	16.4%	16.3%	14.8%
Anoka*	5.8%	6.2%	6.3%	6.2%	5.8%
Becker	14.4%	14.4%	13.4%	12.6%	11.7%
Beltrami	23.2%	24.5%	24.7%	23.6%	23.1%
Benton	6.9%	7.0%	7.0%	7.1%	6.3%
Big Stone	6.6%	6.5%	7.8%	7.0%	5.8%
Blue Earth	8.8%	9.4%	8.9%	8.4%	7.6%
Brown	4.1%	4.8%	4.8%	4.9%	4.4%
Carlton	10.5%	11.0%	10.3%	9.6%	9.5%
Carver	2.5%	2.6%	2.3%	2.4%	2.4%
Cass	19.1%	18.5%	18.6%	18.0%	17.1%
Chippewa	6.2%	6.9%	7.0%	7.2%	6.4%
Chisago	5.9%	6.9%	6.1%	5.8%	5.4%
Clay	13.3%	14.5%	15.5%	16.8%	16.1%
Clearwater	17.1%	17.5%	14.8%	15.1%	13.6%
Cook	4.2%	2.6%	2.4%	3.6%	3.5%
Cottonwood	6.8%	8.4%	9.3%	7.8%	7.2%
Crow Wing	12.3%	11.8%	11.5%	11.5%	10.8%
Dakota*	4.5%	4.6%	4.7%	4.8%	4.6%
Dodge	3.8%	4.1%	5.0%	4.6%	4.5%
Douglas	5.9%	5.9%	5.5%	5.6%	4.6%
Faribault/Martin	8.3%	7.6%	7.7%	8.1%	7.1%
Fillmore	3.9%	4.6%	4.7%	5.0%	4.3%
Freeborn	8.7%	9.5%	9.2%	9.3%	8.8%
Goodhue	5.0%	4.3%	3.7%	3.4%	3.2%
Grant	8.0%	8.6%	7.9%	7.4%	8.1%
Hennepin*	13.9%	14.9%	15.2%	15.6%	15.1%
Houston	4.3%	4.5%	5.1%	4.8%	4.2%
Hubbard	12.0%	11.2%	9.9%	10.9%	10.1%
Isanti	8.0%	8.3%	7.4%	6.9%	5.7%
Itasca	13.2%	13.8%	13.2%	12.2%	11.2%
Jackson	8.0%	8.1%	7.7%	7.8%	5.7%
Kanabec	9.8%	10.4%	10.5%	9.4%	9.2%
Kandiyohi	10.7%	11.6%	11.6%	11.5%	10.5%
Kittson	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%	4.8%	5.0%
Koochiching	9.2%	9.7%	9.6%	10.0%	9.0%
Lac qui Parle	2.6%	2.7%	2.9%	3.2%	2.6%
Lake	8.5%	7.8%	7.7%	7.8%	6.5%
Lake . . . Woods	5.0%	5.4%	5.1%	4.8%	3.2%

County	FY1991	FY1992	FY1993	FY1994	FY1995
LeSueur	5.0%	5.4%	5.2%	4.9%	4.8%
Lincoln**					
Lyon**					
MacLeod	3.5%	4.2%	3.7%	3.7%	3.6%
Mahnomen	18.6%	18.8%	15.6%	17.1%	17.1%
Marshall	4.6%	5.4%	5.2%	5.2%	4.8%
Martin/Faribault	8.3%	7.6%	7.7%	8.1%	7.1%
Meeker	6.0%	6.1%	6.1%	5.6%	4.9%
Mille Lacs*	10.4%	10.2%	10.1%	11.3%	11.9%
Morrison*	7.4%	7.2%	7.0%	7.3%	7.6%
Mower	9.3%	10.2%	9.7%	8.8%	7.9%
Murray**					
Nicollet	4.8%	5.1%	4.7%	4.8%	4.6%
Nobles	5.7%	6.6%	7.2%	6.4%	6.2%
Norman	6.2%	7.7%	8.6%	8.8%	7.9%
Olmsted	5.6%	5.9%	6.1%	6.3%	6.5%
Otter Tail	6.5%	7.3%	7.2%	6.7%	5.8%
Pennington	11.2%	11.5%	11.2%	10.3%	8.3%
Pine	11.8%	11.4%	10.8%	10.4%	10.9%
Pipestone	6.6%	5.5%	6.0%	6.2%	5.6%
Polk	17.8%	18.0%	17.6%	16.5%	14.1%
Pope	5.8%	6.4%	7.1%	7.2%	5.7%
Ramsey	16.4%	17.9%	19.1%	19.7%	19.6%
Red Lake	5.1%	6.7%	5.7%	5.0%	4.4%
Redwood	3.6%	3.2%	3.9%	4.1%	4.0%
Renville	5.5%	8.0%	10.1%	9.5%	7.4%
Rice	5.2%	5.8%	5.8%	5.5%	4.9%
Rock	5.2%	4.5%	4.5%	4.6%	4.2%
Roseau	3.1%	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%	3.0%
Saint Louis	15.4%	14.1%	13.5%	13.6%	12.2%
Scott	3.1%	3.6%	3.3%	3.1%	3.0%
Sherburne*	4.8%	4.7%	4.3%	4.8%	5.0%
Sibley	3.8%	3.9%	5.1%	5.0%	4.1%
Stearns	5.0%	5.1%	5.0%	4.8%	4.6%
Steele	4.4%	4.5%	4.1%	4.2%	4.0%
Stevens	5.7%	5.3%	4.9%	4.7%	4.6%
Swift	7.2%	7.4%	6.9%	6.4%	6.8%
Todd*	7.6%	7.9%	7.9%	8.7%	9.1%
Traverse	7.3%	8.1%	7.5%	7.2%	8.3%
Wabasha	4.7%	4.8%	4.0%	3.6%	3.2%
Wadena	11.2%	12.4%	11.6%	10.6%	10.3%
Waseca	5.4%	5.8%	5.9%	5.0%	4.4%
Washington	3.9%	4.1%	3.9%	3.6%	3.2%
Watonwan	2.7%	6.6%	6.9%	6.6%	6.3%
Wilkin	10.1%	10.9%	11.0%	11.3%	9.6%
Winona	6.3%	6.8%	6.4%	6.3%	6.0%
Wright	4.7%	5.0%	5.1%	4.5%	4.1%
Yellow Med.	6.1%	6.4%	6.5%	5.8%	4.5%
** Region VIII N.	5.7%	5.9%	6.1%	5.4%	4.6%
Minnesota	9.6%	10.0%	10.1%	10.1%	9.7%

*FY94 and FY95 include MFIP cases

Statewide Statistics

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Children Receiving AFDC*	115,508 9.6%	123,019 10.0%	125,260 10.1%	127,329 10.1%	121,517 9.7%
Children of Color Receiving AFDC	47,727	53,004	55,216	61,922	60,215
African-American	22,065	24,788	25,971	28,082	27,142
American Indian	9,894	10,240	9,656	9,745	9,272
Asian	11,477	12,649	13,556	14,401	14,141
Hispanic	4,291	5,337	6,043	9,694	9,660

*As a percent of all children from census bureau yearly estimates

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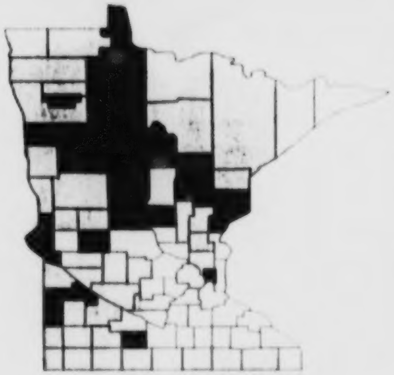
Children Approved for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch



Percent of Children Approved for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐ Significantly Better Than Average

■ At or Near Average

■ Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Free or reduced-priced school lunches are available to children with family incomes below 185% of the federal poverty level. Children with family incomes below 130% of poverty receive free meals. Students with family incomes higher than 185% of poverty pay full price for their meals at school. Although not every eligible student participates, the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches can indicate the number of low-income children in a school district.

A report released by the Food Research and Action Center ranked Minnesota 35 in the nation in school breakfast program participation rates as well as in low-income student participation rates. Minnesota has 29.2% of low-income students taking advantage of the breakfast program. The School Breakfast Score Card also reported on the participation changes between 1995 and 1996. Minnesota ranked 39 with a 0.6% change in school participation rates. The change in low-income student participation was 0.3% with a ranking number of 45.

To improve participation rates, schools first need the funds to begin, expand and promote a program. It is also important for parents and students to understand that a healthy breakfast is vital for children to be able to begin their school day ready to learn. If these things happen, it will be possible for every child to have a well-balanced breakfast.

Research by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the School Lunch Program, shows that children who eat school lunches have higher nutritional intake compared to those who don't eat school lunch. Studies also show that low-income children who participate in the program receive one third to one half of their nutritional intake each day from eating school lunches.

In the 1995-96 school year, 223,893 students were enrolled in the free or reduced-price school lunch program. This means that at least 27% of Minnesota students came from low-income families. Of that number, 166,897 received free meals, which means that at least 20% of Minnesota students came from families with very low incomes. The proportion of students receiving free and reduced-price lunches has remained fairly constant since the 1991-92 school year. Thirty-three counties stayed the same or decreased the number of students receiving subsidized meals with the remaining counties seeing slight increases.

County	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Aitkin	55.2%	56.5%	46.6%	47.1%	45.6%
Anoka	15.8%	17.1%	18.9%	18.4%	18.3%
Becker	39.3%	41.8%	41.5%	39.3%	38.5%
Beltrami	36.3%	38.6%	42.1%	44.2%	44.1%
Benton	23.4%	22.9%	23.8%	22.7%	23.3%
Big Stone	46.6%	49.3%	48.6%	50.4%	47.9%
Blue Earth	22.6%	23.9%	23.6%	24.3%	24.7%
Brown	21.8%	22.3%	23.2%	22.4%	20.0%
Carlton	30.8%	30.5%	30.8%	28.3%	30.3%
Carver	11.6%	12.9%	12.9%	12.5%	13.7%
Cass	53.3%	51.8%	56.6%	55.0%	57.9%
Chippewa	28.3%	29.3%	29.5%	29.9%	28.1%
Chisago	22.9%	25.8%	23.9%	24.1%	23.0%
Clay	28.2%	29.4%	30.2%	31.5%	29.3%
Clearwater	45.2%	47.0%	49.9%	47.6%	49.4%
Cook	16.5%	14.2%	14.0%	16.4%	13.9%
Cottonwood	31.2%	34.1%	34.3%	36.1%	34.3%
Crow Wing	33.1%	32.4%	33.1%	33.3%	32.5%
Dakota	11.2%	12.4%	12.5%	12.9%	14.3%
Dodge	20.4%	21.7%	22.3%	22.0%	19.3%
Douglas	28.5%	30.2%	29.4%	29.1%	27.5%
Faribault	27.6%	30.1%	31.0%	30.0%	28.2%
Fillmore	28.3%	28.9%	30.1%	27.7%	27.7%
Freeborn	24.2%	25.7%	28.5%	29.5%	31.1%
Goodhue	16.5%	16.2%	16.7%	18.7%	18.6%
Grant	32.7%	33.3%	32.5%	31.3%	32.4%
Hennepin	27.0%	28.3%	33.4%	29.2%	28.2%
Houston	20.2%	21.5%	21.4%	20.5%	22.1%
Hubbard	39.4%	42.2%	47.0%	42.8%	46.3%
Isanti	25.4%	25.0%	28.8%	27.4%	28.1%
Itasca	37.7%	34.4%	35.3%	32.1%	33.4%
Jackson	31.4%	32.4%	36.6%	33.7%	32.4%
Kanabec	34.2%	33.6%	34.6%	37.0%	34.3%
Kandiyohi	32.8%	29.6%	30.5%	30.1%	35.6%
Kittson	33.5%	35.2%	35.6%	33.8%	36.1%
Koochiching	26.0%	30.0%	26.5%	27.1%	29.9%
Lac qui Parle	32.9%	34.6%	35.5%	33.6%	29.9%
Lake	26.8%	32.3%	32.7%	28.2%	24.6%
Lake . . . Woods	41.4%	43.5%	44.0%	41.8%	42.3%

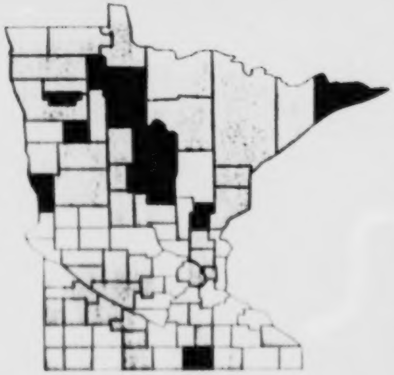
County	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
LeSueur	23.0%	22.8%	25.6%	25.8%	27.7%
Lincoln	38.4%	39.9%	42.0%	40.3%	40.2%
Lyon	28.0%	27.0%	27.9%	28.6%	26.6%
MacLeod	17.3%	18.3%	19.5%	17.2%	17.5%
Mahnomen	66.6%	65.3%	66.4%	67.7%	68.3%
Marshall	40.8%	38.8%	38.6%	42.8%	35.6%
Martin	31.0%	30.4%	32.1%	30.9%	31.3%
Meeker	27.1%	27.8%	29.5%	29.6%	28.5%
Mille Lacs	34.6%	33.8%	36.3%	36.7%	36.3%
Morrison	44.5%	44.4%	44.4%	41.5%	41.5%
Mower	26.5%	27.5%	28.0%	28.2%	28.2%
Murray	28.1%	27.9%	32.5%	31.6%	29.4%
Nicollet	23.1%	23.9%	23.4%	21.1%	20.1%
Nobles	28.7%	27.9%	29.2%	32.5%	30.9%
Norman	39.5%	40.0%	40.6%	38.6%	41.7%
Olmsted	16.6%	17.9%	17.8%	18.8%	18.2%
Otter Tail	30.7%	31.1%	31.3%	30.4%	30.2%
Pennington	37.4%	36.2%	36.4%	38.0%	34.8%
Pine	38.7%	38.8%	39.7%	41.4%	37.9%
Pipestone	30.8%	32.8%	32.2%	31.8%	31.4%
Polk	35.5%	35.8%	37.0%	34.1%	35.7%
Pope	32.7%	40.8%	43.6%	45.8%	41.6%
Ramsey	35.7%	33.0%	35.3%	36.7%	40.3%
Red Lake	45.0%	49.2%	47.1%	50.0%	48.0%
Redwood	26.7%	28.5%	29.9%	29.0%	30.0%
Renville	26.8%	29.8%	30.7%	31.9%	29.6%
Rice	25.2%	23.6%	21.5%	22.8%	21.4%
Rock	26.2%	27.3%	27.6%	29.3%	28.4%
Roseau	29.3%	31.2%	32.4%	29.2%	30.5%
Saint Louis	28.0%	28.0%	28.7%	28.4%	26.9%
Scott	12.5%	12.1%	12.5%	13.5%	12.3%
Sherburne	15.6%	16.3%	15.9%	15.8%	13.9%
Sibley	22.4%	24.4%	28.3%	27.5%	29.1%
Stearns	25.6%	25.5%	25.2%	25.6%	25.1%
Steele	18.3%	21.0%	22.2%	20.6%	19.3%
Stevens	26.1%	24.7%	26.3%	24.4%	22.8%
Swift	34.8%	34.2%	36.0%	36.5%	33.8%
Todd	47.1%	45.6%	44.9%	46.2%	44.8%
Traverse	38.5%	40.2%	40.0%	39.8%	40.9%

Statewide Statistics

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Number of Students Approved for Free or Reduced Price School Lunch	198,407 25.6%	206,381 26.0%	224,860 27.6%	222,431 27.0%	223,893 27.0%
Percent Approved for Free Lunch	147,797 19.1%	154,422 19.5%	168,580 20.7%	166,412 20.0%	166,897 20.0%

County	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Wabasha	19.6%	20.8%	20.9%	21.5%	20.4%
Wadena	46.6%	45.9%	46.8%	48.6%	47.5%
Waseca	23.4%	24.8%	26.2%	26.0%	25.6%
Washington	11.3%	11.7%	11.8%	12.0%	12.1%
Watonwan	33.8%	37.6%	40.5%	38.2%	39.6%
Wilkin	35.2%	34.7%	35.7%	35.8%	31.6%
Winona	23.1%	23.3%	24.3%	25.0%	22.6%
Wright	17.4%	18.9%	18.1%	18.6%	18.1%
Yellow Med.	37.1%	39.8%	39.4%	39.7%	37.7%
Minnesota	25.6%	26.0%	27.6%	26.8%	26.8%

Children Born to Teenage Mothers



Percent of Children Born to Teenage Mothers in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐ Significantly Better Than Average

■ At or Near Average

■ Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Early childbearing has a lasting impact on the lives and future opportunities of young mothers and their children. Teen pregnancy and births represent significant health risks for both the teen mother and the baby. The mothers are likely to delay receiving prenatal care, and babies are more likely to have medical complications. Young mothers are more likely than other teenagers to come from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds. Approximately 70% of teen mothers complete high school by the time they are 35-39, compared with 90% of women who wait until they are older to have children. Often, young women who begin childbearing in their teens have lower family incomes than those who postpone their first birth.

Recent research has also suggested that adult males are responsible for most teen births. In a survey of 10,000 mothers, researchers found that half of the fathers of babies born to teens were older than twenty, and 20% were at least six years older than the mother.

Nationally, teen birth rates have been declining since 1992. Although the declines were small, they occurred in nearly every state. Since the number of teenage girls is increasing, the number of births may increase even as the rate of births continues to decrease.

Teen births have increased steadily in Minnesota as a percent of total births in the state. In 1991, teen births comprised 2.7% of all births. By 1995, that number had increased slightly to 3%. Ten percent of mothers of color were under 18 in 1995, a small increase from 9.6% in 1991. Almost 31% of all teen births in 1995 were to mothers of color. Among counties, rates ranged from six counties with more than 6% of all births to teen parents, to two counties that had no birth to teens in 1995.

Two communities in Southeast Minnesota are tackling the problem of teen pregnancy. Mother/daughter retreats, a video produced by teen parents, workshops for religious congregations, and community education are all part of Project SIGHT, a teen pregnancy prevention program in Northfield and Faribault. Project SIGHT works as a volunteer, community coalition to take a positive approach to abstinence-based, comprehensive sexuality education.

Teen involvement is critical to Project SIGHT. Teens work on all program committees and teach curriculum to younger children. Besides producing a video, Project SIGHT has a Youth Drama group which has produced public service announcements for local radio.

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Aitkin	2.6%	3.1%	4.5%	2.1%	1.4%
Anoka	2.4%	2.2%	2.2%	2.8%	2.7%
Becker	4.6%	5.1%	5.4%	3.7%	3.0%
Beltrami	3.5%	5.5%	4.2%	5.5%	5.1%
Benton	0.8%	2.4%	1.9%	1.9%	2.1%
Big Stone	1.4%		1.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Blue Earth	2.3%	1.2%	2.2%	1.9%	2.1%
Brown	2.3%	1.2%	1.7%	2.6%	2.8%
Carlton	2.6%	4.6%	5.2%	3.1%	3.1%
Carver	1.6%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.2%
Cass	5.4%	3.3%	3.5%	8.8%	6.3%
Chippewa	0.0%	1.2%	2.0%	2.5%	2.9%
Chisago	2.1%	1.9%	2.6%	1.8%	2.5%
Clay	3.5%	2.7%	3.3%	4.9%	4.8%
Clearwater	3.3%	4.7%	4.0%	6.3%	3.9%
Cook			4.3%	5.5%	5.4%
Cottonwood	2.2%	3.9%	4.1%	4.3%	1.5%
Crow Wing	3.3%	3.9%	4.8%	4.1%	5.2%
Dakota	1.3%	1.6%	1.5%	1.7%	1.8%
Dodge	3.1%	1.2%	1.8%	1.8%	2.2%
Douglas	1.7%	3.7%	2.7%	3.2%	1.2%
Faribault	2.3%	1.1%	3.6%	3.6%	4.8%
Fillmore	3.2%	0.7%	4.1%	1.9%	2.5%
Freeborn	3.8%	2.2%	5.3%	5.7%	5.3%
Goodhue	1.8%	3.1%	1.6%	2.3%	2.0%
Grant		1.6%	1.5%	0.0%	1.4%
Hennepin	3.3%	3.6%	3.5%	3.5%	3.7%
Houston	2.6%	1.1%	1.2%	2.6%	2.4%
Hubbard	3.2%	4.8%	3.6%	3.3%	2.6%
Isanti	2.6%	4.1%	3.6%	4.8%	3.4%
Itasca	4.7%	5.8%	2.3%	3.5%	3.5%
Jackson	0.8%	0.8%	2.5%	1.7%	2.4%
Kanabec	4.1%	5.8%	7.5%	2.5%	6.1%
Kandiyohi	4.0%	4.0%	5.3%	3.7%	4.0%
Kittson			3.3%	1.7%	3.2%
Koochiching	3.3%	4.0%	3.1%	2.9%	3.9%
Lac qui Parle	2.0%	2.7%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%
Lake		1.0%	2.1%	7.6%	2.9%
Lake...Woods	1.8%	3.0%	1.8%	4.1%	4.2%

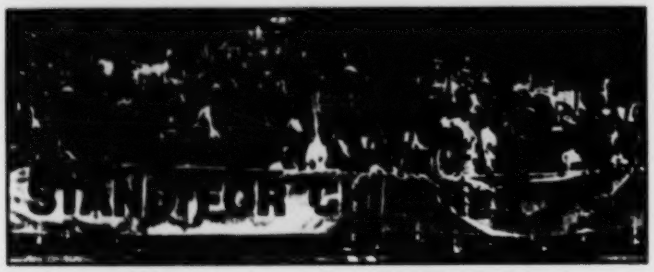
County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
LeSueur	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	1.8%	3.1%
Lincoln	3.0%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	3.1%
Lyon	2.3%	2.2%	2.4%	2.7%	4.4%
MacLeod	1.5%	1.5%	1.1%	3.4%	2.7%
Mahnomen	3.2%	6.2%	3.9%	6.6%	8.3%
Marshall	1.5%	2.7%	0.9%	3.6%	4.8%
Martin	4.1%	1.8%	3.3%	2.7%	4.8%
Meeker	2.2%	4.1%	3.9%	2.5%	3.2%
Mille Lacs	5.6%	3.1%	3.0%	4.4%	4.7%
Morrison	1.9%	3.8%	3.9%	4.9%	3.2%
Mower	5.0%	3.8%	4.0%	5.7%	3.3%
Murray	0.8%	0.9%	1.9%	1.1%	1.0%
Nicollet	1.6%	0.8%	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%
Nobles	1.0%	4.9%	5.4%	2.8%	4.0%
Norman	2.3%	1.0%		5.2%	2.0%
Olmsted	1.6%	1.4%	1.8%	2.1%	2.3%
Otter Tail	1.7%	2.5%	3.5%	1.8%	3.1%
Pennington	3.4%	3.8%	3.1%	1.2%	3.7%
Pine	6.2%	3.0%	4.2%	4.8%	4.1%
Pipestone	2.8%	4.5%	3.4%	0.9%	0.9%
Polk	2.5%	3.8%	2.7%	4.8%	3.2%
Pope	1.5%	0.9%	5.2%	2.6%	0.0%
Ramsey	3.9%	4.2%	4.5%	4.2%	4.4%
Red Lake	2.2%		7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Redwood	0.9%	2.7%	2.3%	3.6%	2.9%
Renville	2.4%	3.3%	3.8%	2.5%	4.2%
Rice	2.8%	3.5%	4.6%	2.8%	3.2%
Rock	2.5%	1.6%	0.8%	3.3%	3.1%
Roseau	2.2%	2.8%	2.5%	3.9%	3.8%
Saint Louis	3.1%	3.0%	3.8%	3.4%	3.7%
Scott	1.7%	1.4%	1.5%	1.9%	1.7%
Sherburne	0.8%	2.5%	2.3%	2.5%	1.7%
Sibley	1.5%	2.3%	2.5%	2.9%	1.3%
Stearns	1.7%	1.4%	2.2%	2.3%	2.4%
Steele	1.2%	2.1%	1.6%	2.9%	3.9%
Stevens	2.8%			1.1%	0.0%
Swift	0.7%	2.3%	0.8%	2.5%	4.6%
Todd	4.0%	3.9%	3.5%	4.1%	3.6%
Traverse		4.4%	6.7%	0.0%	0.0%

Statewide Statistics

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Children Born to Teenage Mothers* (under 18 years of age)	1840 2.7%	1911 2.9%	1958 3.0%	1999 3.1%	2030 3.2%
Children Born to Teenage Mothers of Color** (under 18 years of age)	618 9.6%	616 9.7%	633 10.0%	628 9.4%	664 10.0%
African-American	322 11.5%	389 13.4%	357 12.8%	361 12.1%	369 12.9%
American Indian	132 9.7%	122 9.9%	137 12.1%	157 13.5%	128 11.9%
Asian	164 7.3%	105 4.7%	139 5.9%	108 4.2%	154 6.0%
Hispanic	103 5.6%	121 6.3%	143 7.3%	139 7.0%	147 7.7%

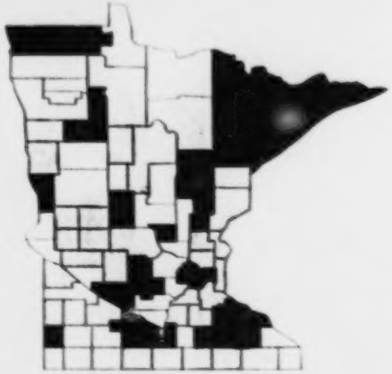
*As a Percent of All Births

**As a Percent of All Births to Mothers of Color (does not include Hispanic)



County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Wabasha	2.1%	2.1%	0.8%	1.8%	2.3%
Wadena	2.8%	8.2%	2.8%	5.2%	2.5%
Waseca	1.7%	2.2%	2.6%	3.4%	2.0%
Washington	2.0%	1.4%	1.6%	1.8%	2.2%
Watonwan	2.8%	5.2%	6.7%	6.2%	4.5%
Wilkin	4.3%	2.6%	2.9%	2.1%	5.5%
Winona	3.4%	2.1%	2.9%	1.6%	4.7%
Wright	2.0%	2.3%	1.4%	3.0%	2.2%
Yellow Med.	3.2%	3.7%	2.7%	2.3%	4.2%
Minnesota	2.7%	2.9%	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%

Children Born at Low Birth Weight



Percent of Low Birth-Weight Babies Born in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐	Significantly Better Than Average
■	At or Near Average
■	Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Low birth weight is the major cause of infant illness and death in the United States. This term describes infants born weighing less than 2500 grams or 5.5 pounds, including those born prematurely (before 37 weeks). Long-term outcomes for these infants include higher rates of subnormal growth, adverse health conditions, and developmental problems.

Of $11 billion spent nationally on infant health care, approximately 35% ($4 billion) is spent on low birthweight infants. Most of these dollars are devoted to saving a small group of very tiny infants weighing less than 1500 grams. Factors associated with low birth weight include tobacco use during pregnancy, inadequate prenatal care, young mothers, and short intervals between pregnancies. Women of color and poor women are more likely to have low birthweight babies.

In 1995, 3,709 children or 6% of all children born in Minnesota weighed less than 2500 grams. That number increased from 5% in 1991. Rates for children of color were higher, ranging from 6.4% for Asian children to 11.2% for American Indian children. These numbers have all increased slightly since 1991 except for American Indian children, who saw a very small decrease. Rates ranged widely among counties, from 1% to 11%.

Low birth weight is the leading cause of infant deaths. Project LID (Lower Infant Deaths) of the Minneapolis and St. Paul Health Departments is a program to reduce infant and fetal death and improve infant health outcomes. Project LID reviews infant deaths in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties by looking at medical records, birth and death certificates, and by interviewing mothers of deceased infants.

Each case is reviewed by an expert committee to determine factors that influenced the death. Project LID then develops recommendations for changes in clinical practices, health and human service delivery systems and public policies. Hopefully, these changes will prevent future deaths.

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Aitkin	5.2%	1.5%	4.5%	4.2%	6.4%
Anoka	**4.8%**	**4.8%**	**4.3%**	**5.3%**	**5.4%**
Becker	**4.1%**	**4.8%**	**5.1%**	**4.8%**	**4.3%**
Beltrami	**3.6%**	**4.9%**	**6.4%**	**4.7%**	**5.5%**
Benton	4.8%	5.1%	6.6%	4.8%	8.0%
Big Stone	4.3%	2.8%	0.0%	3.5%	3.8%
Blue Earth	3.1%	3.2%	3.7%	4.0%	7.4%
Brown	6.6%	4.1%	3.4%	5.8%	6.3%
Carlton	**2.9%**	**5.2%**	**5.2%**	**5.6%**	**3.8%**
Carver	**3.7%**	**4.3%**	**3.6%**	**5.7%**	**5.9%**
Cass	**6.4%**	**2.7%**	**6.3%**	**7.7%**	**5.9%**
Chippewa	**3.4%**	**4.9%**	**3.3%**	**3.1%**	**2.9%**
Chisago	4.4%	4.2%	3.2%	3.9%	5.0%
Clay	4.6%	5.2%	5.9%	3.7%	4.8%
Clearwater	4.1%	1.2%	6.0%	4.2%	6.9%
Cook	2.2%	3.7%	6.4%	7.3%	7.1%
Cottonwood	3.6%	1.3%	6.1%	5.1%	0.7%
Crow Wing	**4.6%**	**3.6%**	**4.8%**	**4.4%**	**4.4%**
Dakota	**4.4%**	**4.8%**	**5.0%**	**5.4%**	**5.5%**
Dodge	**5.5%**	**4.0%**	**4.4%**	**4.0%**	**7.2%**
Douglas	6.1%	3.5%	3.3%	4.3%	4.7%
Faribault	7.3%	4.0%	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%
Fillmore	3.2%	4.8%	6.0%	6.6%	3.7%
Freeborn	8.1%	7.3%	6.4%	4.3%	5.0%
Goodhue	**3.8%**	**5.2%**	**5.6%**	**4.8%**	**7.6%**
Grant	**1.8%**	**4.9%**	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**5.8%**
Hennepin	**5.8%**	**5.6%**	**5.8%**	**6.7%**	**6.4%**
Houston	**1.9%**	**7.1%**	**2.0%**	**1.7%**	**2.8%**
Hubbard	3.8%	7.2%	6.5%	7.8%	4.6%
Isanti	2.6%	3.2%	4.5%	5.9%	6.1%
Itasca	6.1%	3.1%	4.9%	4.4%	4.6%
Jackson	3.9%	4.2%	4.9%	5.0%	4.8%
Kanabec	**10.2%**	**4.7%**	**3.8%**	**9.3%**	**10.1%**
Kandiyohi	**3.7%**	**4.3%**	**3.4%**	**3.3%**	**5.7%**
Kittson	**1.9%**	**6.1%**	**5.0%**	**5.1%**	**7.9%**
Koochiching	**3.8%**	**6.3%**	**5.2%**	**5.9%**	**3.1%**
Lac qui Parle	1.0%	2.7%	3.2%	7.2%	4.8%
Lake	4.2%	2.9%	2.1%	2.2%	7.8%
Lake...Woods	7.0%	0.0%	3.5%	8.2%	4.2%

36

37

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
LeSueur	6.2%	3.2%	2.9%	6.0%	6.2%
Lincoln	1.5%	7.1%	5.8%	4.5%	4.6%
Lyon	1.1%	5.3%	4.0%	4.1%	4.7%
MacLeod	2.8%	4.1%	4.5%	4.9%	7.1%
Mahnomen	4.8%	3.7%	3.9%	6.6%	6.9%
Marshall	6.8%	2.7%	4.3%	0.9%	4.0%
Martin	4.4%	5.4%	4.4%	5.7%	5.2%
Meeker	2.6%	3.3%	5.0%	4.5%	6.5%
Mille Lacs	4.4%	6.6%	8.0%	5.2%	3.8%
Morrison	3.1%	5.4%	3.2%	3.6%	4.0%
Mower	5.0%	5.9%	5.3%	6.8%	5.1%
Murray	2.3%	1.8%	3.7%	4.3%	3.8%
Nicollet	4.8%	4.3%	5.0%	7.6%	4.0%
Nobles	4.5%	4.6%	5.0%	5.6%	5.0%
Norman	5.7%	5.2%	5.9%	8.3%	6.1%
Olmsted	4.3%	5.9%	5.9%	5.8%	7.2%
Otter Tail	5.2%	4.4%	4.9%	3.4%	5.2%
Pennington	4.0%	3.8%	3.7%	3.1%	5.0%
Pine	5.1%	3.8%	7.6%	6.6%	4.5%
Pipestone	4.1%	4.5%	3.4%	2.8%	8.5%
Polk	4.8%	4.6%	3.0%	3.0%	4.7%
Pope	4.6%	4.3%	3.1%	2.6%	6.0%
Ramsey	5.9%	4.9%	5.5%	6.6%	6.6%
Red Lake	6.7%	5.2%	7.7%	2.1%	2.1%
Redwood	2.2%	2.7%	4.6%	3.6%	4.9%
Renville	1.4%	3.8%	2.7%	8.1%	6.5%
Rice	4.0%	5.3%	5.4%	5.4%	5.6%
Rock	1.7%	3.2%	5.7%	4.9%	2.1%
Roseau	4.8%	5.6%	1.7%	5.1%	6.4%
Saint Louis	4.8%	4.8%	5.1%	5.1%	6.4%
Scott	5.0%	4.9%	4.7%	5.4%	4.8%
Sherburne	4.7%	5.3%	5.1%	5.7%	5.8%
Sibley	4.5%	5.7%	5.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Stearns	5.6%	3.8%	3.7%	6.8%	4.8%
Steele	4.4%	7.2%	5.2%	6.2%	7.1%
Stevens	2.8%	4.7%	3.0%	6.9%	5.4%
Swift	2.1%	0.0%	1.6%	7.4%	5.6%
Todd	6.2%	3.2%	8.8%	6.1%	6.8%
Traverse	5.7%	2.2%	6.7%	3.9%	2.1%
Wabasha	2.8%	6.3%	5.4%	4.0%	6.5%
Wadena	3.4%	7.0%	5.0%	5.2%	3.2%
Waseca	4.6%	3.9%	6.4%	5.9%	4.5%
Washington	4.5%	4.8%	5.2%	5.2%	6.1%
Watonwan	6.1%	5.7%	1.7%	4.3%	6.4%
Wilkin	5.4%	5.2%	10.7%	3.2%	11.0%
Winona	6.2%	3.6%	5.6%	4.3%	5.1%
Wright	4.2%	3.4%	5.9%	3.4%	3.5%
Yellow Med.	3.2%	3.0%	4.8%	4.6%	4.2%
Minnesota	5.0%	4.9%	5.1%	5.7%	5.9%

Statewide Statistics

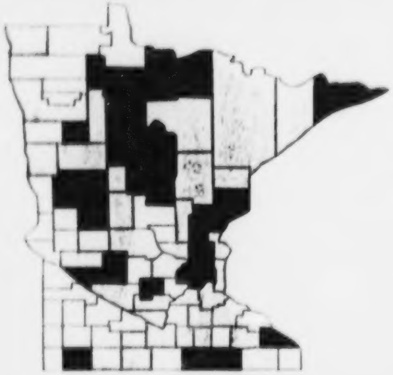
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Children Born With Low Birth Weight (less than 2500 grams)*	3,339 5.0%	3,211 4.9%	3320 5.1%	3646 5.7%	3709 6.0%
Children of Color**	639 8.7%	586 7.9%	623 8.3%	720 9.0%	698 8.9%
African-American	406 12.2%	366 10.4%	348 9.9%	429 11.5%	405 11.2%
American Indian	93 5.7%	88 6.0%	100 7.2%	94 6.6%	105 7.9%
Asian	138 5.7%	131 5.4%	174 6.8%	192 6.9%	181 6.4%
Hispanic	79 6.2%	73 5.2%	85 5.4%	107 6.4%	129 6.7%

*As a percent of all births

**As a percent of all children of color born (does not include Hispanic)

1,000,000 Wonderful KIDS

Children Dropping Out of School



Percent of Children Dropping Out of School in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐ Significantly Better Than Average

▨ At or Near Average

■ Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Nine percent of children in the U.S. drop out of school each year. Students who fail to complete school are at increased risk of developing mental and physical problems and are more likely to require social services during their lifetimes. Dropout rates for children of color and low-income students are higher, as are rates for children with disabilities.

High school dropouts also face a bleak employment future. Of the top 100 occupations in Minnesota with the highest expected growth between 1994 and 2005, only ten do not require a high school diploma. Twenty-two of these fast-growing occupations require a high school diploma and up to two years of training, and the remainder require two or more years of education or training after high school. Wages for the jobs requiring less training are also quite low. Of the ten occupations not requiring a high school diploma, seven have a median wage of less than $7.50 per hour.

In the 1995-96 school year, an estimated 4% of the state's 7-12th grade students dropped out of school. The state dropout rate for students of color was 13.1% for the 1995-96 school year, or more than three times that of white students. This rate increased 21% from 1993-94 to 1995-96, compared to a 14% increase for white students during that time. The dropout rate also increases when it is viewed for a single class of students over time. If a "cumulative dropout" rate is figured for the class of 1996 (meaning that the number of students who drop out each year is added together) the dropout figure for that class is 22%.

The Ginew/Golden Eagle Program at the Minneapolis American Indian Center exists to build youth resiliency and to strengthen assets in Native American youth. Academic achievement is encouraged through two programs. Indian Youth Study Time provides one-on-one and small group tutoring by trained volunteers to students who are struggling in school. Students receive incentives for successfully completing homework. Currently, forty-two students work with twenty-three volunteers.

The Challenge to Achieve project promotes regular school attendance and above-average academic achievement for all Ginew/Golden Eagle youth members. Students who meet the Challenge to Achieve standards in grades and attendance are awarded a modest stipend at a recognition ceremony. More than 200 students participate in Challenge to Achieve.

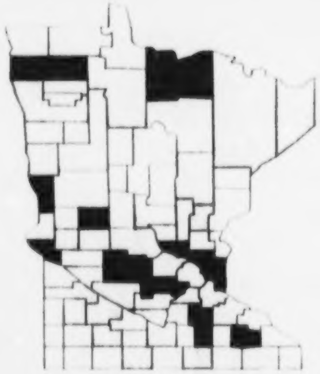
County	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Aitkin	2.1%	1.4%	1.2%	1.0%	1.9%
Anoka	**2.6%**	**3.0%**	**3.2%**	**3.8%**	**3.8%**
Becker	**1.4%**	**1.8%**	**1.4%**	**1.7%**	**2.3%**
Beltrami	**2.3%**	**3.2%**	**2.0%**	**5.1%**	**4.2%**
Benton	0.4%	0.8%	0.6%	0.8%	1.1%
Big Stone		0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	1.1%
Blue Earth	2.5%	2.9%	2.7%	2.7%	2.5%
Brown	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.1%
Carlton	**3.4%**	**2.4%**	**1.7%**	**2.5%**	**2.6%**
Carver	**6.5%**	**4.7%**	**1.0%**	**1.1%**	**1.2%**
Cass	**5.8%**	**5.8%**	**6.5%**	**5.5%**	**4.4%**
Chippewa	**1.6%**	**2.4%**	**2.7%**	**3.4%**	**4.3%**
Chisago	4.3%	3.6%	3.1%	2.5%	2.2%
Clay	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	1.5%	2.0%
Clearwater	3.4%	3.0%	0.7%	1.6%	3.3%
Cook	1.7%	4.1%	1.9%	5.0%	5.7%
Cottonwood	**0.8%**	**1.8%**	**0.8%**	**0.8%**	**0.7%**
Crow Wing	**4.4%**	**5.2%**	**4.8%**	**5.0%**	**6.5%**
Dakota	**2.9%**	**3.2%**	**3.1%**	**3.3%**	**3.6%**
Dodge	**0.7%**	**0.8%**	**1.1%**	**1.3%**	**1.5%**
Douglas	1.6%	2.0%	4.9%	3.8%	4.4%
Faribault	1.1%	0.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%
Fillmore	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	1.4%
Freeborn	4.2%	4.7%	4.1%	4.1%	4.3%
Goodhue	2.2%	2.5%	2.0%	2.3%	2.1%
Grant	0.7%	1.0%	0.1%	0.6%	1.7%
Hennepin	**6.0%**	**7.1%**	**5.9%**	**5.8%**	**7.5%**
Houston	**0.6%**	**0.9%**	**1.1%**	**1.4%**	**1.0%**
Hubbard	2.8%	3.0%	1.5%	2.0%	5.3%
Isanti	4.1%	5.6%	6.3%	5.4%	6.6%
Itasca	3.9%	2.2%	2.7%	2.5%	3.1%
Jackson	0.8%	2.1%	1.2%	2.3%	2.8%
Kanabec	**3.8%**	**3.9%**	**3.9%**	**3.9%**	**4.0%**
Kandiyohi	**5.1%**	**8.7%**	**6.2%**	**6.1%**	**6.8%**
Kittson	**0.4%**	**1.0%**	**0.6%**	**0.9%**	**1.8%**
Koochiching	**2.5%**	**1.6%**	**2.9%**	**2.5%**	**4.3%**
Lac Qui Parle	0.1%	0.2%	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%
Lake	1.1%	0.5%	2.0%	2.5%	2.5%
Lake . . . Woods	2.3%	0.9%	3.2%	1.6%	-

County	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Le Sueur	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	2.0%	1.7%
Lincoln	**0.8%**	**0.4%**	**0.7%**	**0.6%**	**0.7%**
Lyon	**1.6%**	**1.7%**	**1.1%**	**1.4%**	**1.7%**
McLeod	**2.8%**	**2.0%**	**1.1%**	**3.9%**	**4.1%**
Mahnomen	**0.8%**	**5.2%**	**7.4%**	**7.6%**	**9.5%**
Marshall	0.5%	0.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%
Martin	1.2%	1.5%	1.5%	1.1%	2.1%
Meeker	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.3%	1.5%
Mille Lacs	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	2.2%
Morrison	**1.2%**	**1.4%**	**0.8%**	**0.6%**	**0.9%**
Mower	**3.5%**	**4.6%**	**4.0%**	**5.2%**	**4.9%**
Murray	**0.3%**	**0.1%**	-	**0.3%**	**0.5%**
Nicollet	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%	1.2%	1.9%
Nobles	3.2%	1.4%	2.7%	4.1%	3.9%
Norman	0.7%	1.2%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
Olmsted	2.6%	2.7%	1.8%	1.9%	2.6%
Otter Tail	2.8%	1.8%	2.4%	3.8%	4.7%
Pennington	**0.5%**	**0.2%**	**1.7%**	**1.0%**	**1.2%**
Pine	**2.8%**	**3.6%**	**2.8%**	**4.5%**	**4.9%**
Pipestone	**0.2%**	**0.7%**	**1.8%**	**1.3%**	**1.5%**
Polk	**2.7%**	**2.6%**	**2.8%**	**1.9%**	**2.3%**
Pope	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%	0.2%
Ramsey	6.4%	8.0%	7.4%	6.5%	7.5%
Red Lake	0.9%	0.2%	0.2%	-	0.9%
Redwood	1.0%	1.1%	0.4%	1.3%	1.4%
Renville	**0.9%**	**1.8%**	**1.1%**	**2.3%**	**2.8%**
Rice	**3.6%**	**3.7%**	**3.2%**	**3.8%**	**2.7%**
Rock	**1.2%**	**0.7%**	**0.6%**	**1.0%**	**0.9%**
Roseau	**0.8%**	**0.7%**	**0.7%**	**0.6%**	**0.3%**
Saint Louis	4.1%	3.4%	3.5%	3.2%	3.3%
Scott	1.3%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	1.3%
Sherburne	3.1%	3.3%	2.7%	2.3%	3.2%
Sibley	2.3%	0.9%	1.7%	3.6%	2.7%
Stearns	**1.2%**	**0.6%**	**1.0%**	**1.1%**	**2.0%**
Steele	**1.9%**	**1.9%**	**2.2%**	**2.3%**	**2.7%**
Stevens	**0.1%**	**0.4%**	**0.5%**	**0.6%**	**0.7%**
Swift	**1.2%**	**1.8%**	**1.2%**	**1.1%**	**1.9%**
Todd	1.6%	1.2%	1.5%	2.3%	2.5%
Traverse	-	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Wabasha	0.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.2%	1.0%
Wadena	**0.9%**	**1.4%**	**1.8%**	**2.2%**	**3.0%**
Waseca	**1.5%**	**1.5%**	**1.3%**	**2.1%**	**2.4%**
Washington	**3.9%**	**2.7%**	**2.7%**	**2.5%**	**2.9%**
Watonwan	**1.6%**	**2.7%**	**2.5%**	**2.3%**	**2.2%**
Wilkin	**1.2%**	**0.6%**	**1.9%**	**1.8%**	**1.3%**
Winona	3.7%	3.1%	3.2%	3.9%	4.9%
Wright	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.6%	3.5%
Yellow Medicine	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	1.2%	1.1%
Minnesota	3.5%	3.9%	3.4%	3.5%	4.1%

Statewide Statistics

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Children Dropping Out of School	11,491 3.5%	13,640 3.9%	12,387 3.4%	12,930 3.5%	15,701 4.0%
Children of Color	3090 10.3%	4032 12.6%	3892 10.8%	4176 10.8%	5457 13.1%
African-American	1467 14.0%	1870 16.0%	1812 14.0%	1963 14.1%	2766 18.2%
American Indian	669 13.0%	844 15.6%	787 13.0%	920 14.6%	1049 15.9%
Asian	456 4.5%	691 6.6%	612 5.4%	618 5.0%	806 6.0%
Hispanic	496 11.3%	627 12.5%	681 12.3%	675 11.1%	836 12.5%

Children Arrested for Violent Crime



Percent of Children Arrested for Violent Crime in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐	Significantly Better Than Average
▨	At or Near Average
■	Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Juvenile violent crime connects to other risk factors for children. Although youth are often characterized solely as perpetrators of crime, they are also likely to be its victims. A recent survey found that people most likely to report that they were crime victims in 1995 were between 15 and 24 years old.

The cost of dealing with crime is enormous. According to the Minnesota Department of Corrections, the Minnesota adult prison population has doubled from 1985 to 1995 and is expected to continue to increase another 45% by 2005. The share of the state's budget going to prisons nearly doubled over the last 15 years, from 1.1% to 1.9%. Spending is projected to grow from $143 million in 1991 to $3313 million in 1999. Even with this spending, Minnesota has a shortage of about 300 prison beds, a shortage that will increase to 1,185 by the year 2000.

This problem is made worse by a growing number of juveniles being moved to the adult corrections system. The number of juveniles sent to Minnesota prisons after being certified to stand trial as adults has risen to 53 in 1994, an increase of 211% since 1980, when 17 juveniles stood trial as adults.

In 1994, 2225 children were arrested for violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) an increase of 25% from 1993 to 1994. This represented 31% of all arrests for these crimes, a proportion that increased significantly since 1991. Arrests for murder increased by 32%, although they represent a small proportion of the total number of violent crimes. The number of children of color arrested for violent crimes jumped by 66% from 1991 to 1994, with the sharpest increase from 1993 to 1994. If arrests for juvenile violent crimes are measured as a percent of all juvenile crime, the rate is relatively constant at about 3.5%. Counties varied greatly in the number and percent of juveniles arrested for violent crimes.

"We, the Courageous Girls Against Gun and Gang Violence, are sick and tired of gangs, guns, and violence. We want to put an end to this through educating people and speaking out." This is the mission statement of Courageous Girls Against Guns and Gang Violence, a project coordinated by the Youthline Girls' Program of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Fifteen girls serve as role models to their peers and younger kids and actively participate in school and community events. Most of the girls involved live in areas severely affected by violence. Through this project the girls hope to change the negative image that many adults have toward all inner-city youth.

County	1991	1992	1993	1994
Aitkin	50.0%	21.4%	14.3%	27.8%
Anoka	39.7%	39.6%	38.4%	40.7%
Becker	12.5%	0.0%	11.8%	6.7%
Beltrami	30.0%	15.2%	20.8%	25.0%
Benton	12.5%	50.0%	44.4%	25.0%
Big Stone		0.0%	0.0%	57.1%
Blue Earth	4.2%	8.9%	27.8%	34.6%
Brown	9.1%	33.3%	7.1%	6.3%
Carlton	20.0%	44.4%	14.3%	16.0%
Carver	10.3%	42.9%	30.0%	36.1%
Cass	17.9%		2.1%	12.5%
Chippewa	14.3%		0.0%	33.3%
Chisago	8.8%	9.1%	29.0%	26.1%
Clay	10.9%	20.9%	20.0%	29.5%
Clearwater		16.7%	11.1%	
Cook		11.1%	0.0%	
Cottonwood		5.6%	41.7%	29.4%
Crow Wing	6.5%	15.2%	12.0%	15.8%
Dakota	23.6%	27.8%	33.5%	32.5%
Dodge	33.3%	20.0%	0.0%	16.7%
Douglas	38.1%	11.1%	21.7%	43.5%
Faribault	7.7%	40.0%	0.0%	11.1%
Fillmore			0.0%	
Freeborn	19.0%	25.0%	23.8%	25.8%
Goodhue	5.3%	22.2%	24.5%	23.5%
Grant		25.0%	25.0%	33.3%
Hennepin	24.2%	24.3%	22.9%	26.4%
Houston	20.0%	25.0%	30.8%	0.0%
Hubbard		26.7%	22.2%	18.8%
Isanti	14.3%		10.0%	14.3%
Itasca	10.0%		53.6%	13.0%
Jackson	14.3%	14.3%	0.0%	
Kanabec	12.5%	11.1%	21.1%	33.3%
Kandiyohi	34.0%	26.3%	38.8%	38.9%
Kittson			0.0%	0.0%
Koochiching	6.7%		0.0%	46.2%
Lac qui Parle			0.0%	
Lake			25.0%	25.0%
Lake...Woods			0.0%	

County	1991	1992	1993	1994
LeSueur	20.0%	16.7%	12.5%	9.1%
Lincoln			**0.0%**	
Lyon	**25.0%**	**16.2%**	**20.0%**	**33.3%**
MacLeod	**37.9%**	**28.2%**	**30.0%**	**36.8%**
Mahnomen		**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**14.3%**
Marshall		66.7%	0.0%	80.0%
Martin		23.8%	0.0%	21.7%
Meeker			0.0%	50.0%
Mille Lacs	26.3%	9.5%	17.6%	29.4%
Morrison	**9.1%**	**6.7%**	**40.0%**	**33.3%**
Mower	**7.9%**	**23.5%**	**8.1%**	**17.9%**
Murray				
Nicollet	26.7%	26.3%	30.0%	23.5%
Nobles		47.6%	47.6%	18.8%
Norman			0.0%	
Olmsted	25.4%	36.5%	35.6%	37.5%
Otter Tail	17.4%	29.6%	13.0%	6.3%
Pennington	**12.5%**	**8.7%**	**36.4%**	**11.1%**
Pine	**11.1%**		**7.1%**	**15.0%**
Pipestone				
Polk	5.4%	11.8%	19.0%	34.0%
Pope	43.8%	20.0%	0.0%	15.4%
Ramsey	26.5%	32.2%	31.6%	40.4%
Red Lake			0.0%	
Redwood		15.4%	29.2%	25.0%
Renville			**0.0%**	**20.0%**
Rice	**25.0%**	**41.2%**	**41.5%**	**61.1%**
Rock			**0.0%**	
Roseau			7.1%	16.7%
Saint Louis	27.5%	30.8%	36.6%	28.8%
Scott	24.0%	27.1%	30.2%	33.8%
Sherburne	10.0%	14.3%	39.3%	43.6%
Sibley			14.3%	
Stearns	**26.2%**	**22.1%**	**23.1%**	**26.1%**
Steele	**37.5%**	**16.7%**	**6.7%**	**63.6%**
Stevens		**33.3%**	**18.2%**	**25.0%**
Swift			0.0%	
Todd		14.3%	0.0%	
Traverse			0.0%	

Statewide Statistics

	1991	1992	1993	1994
Children Arrested For Violent Crimes* (murder, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault)	1,382 23.6%	1,662 26.4%	1767 25.9%	2225 31.0%
Children of Color**	645 24.3%	714 26.0%	784 25.0%	1007 29.1%
African-American	512 24.2%	574 26.0%	603 24.5%	785 28.9%
American Indian	98 22.6%	90 21.8%	103 22.1%	121 23.6%
Asian	35 41.7%	50 39.1%	78 40.8%	101 42.6%

*As a Percent of All Arrests for Violent Crimes

**As a Percent of People of Color Arrested for Violent Crimes (does not include Hispanic)

County	1991	1992	1993	1994
Wabasha	33.3%		0.0%	16.7%
Wadena	21.4%	11.1%	7.4%	5.0%
Waseca	**33.3%**		**25.0%**	
Washington	**29.9%**	**39.3%**	**32.0%**	**43.7%**
Watonwan	**23.1%**		**40.0%**	**15.0%**
Wilkin		**60.0%**	**0.0%**	**60.0%**
Winona		14.0%	3.7%	19.4%
Wright	3.0%	27.9%	31.0%	28.6%
Yellow Med.	12.5%	20.0%	10.0%	33.3%
Minnesota	23.6%	26.4%	25.9%	31.0%

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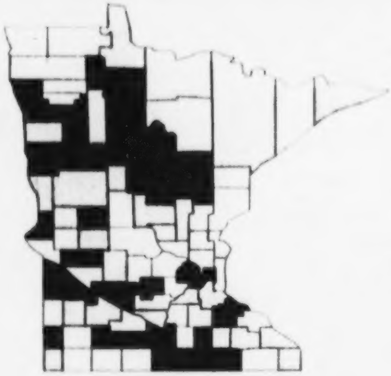
Children Abused and Neglected



Percent of Children Abused and Neglected in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐	Significantly Better Than Average
■	At or Near Average
■	Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Child abuse and neglect can result in a lifetime of physical, intellectual, behavioral, and emotional problems. Young abused children are more likely to be socially withdrawn and physically aggressive, and to have learning problems. As adolescents, they are more likely to be involved in crime, use drugs and alcohol, or attempt suicide. In adulthood, they are more likely to abuse their own children or commit a violent crime. Research has shown that 95% of prisoners who committed violent acts and 70% of all prisoners were abused or neglected as children. Forty-five to 70% of battered women in shelters report the existence of some form of child abuse in their homes. Fifty percent of the men who frequently assaulted their partners also abused their children.

Child abuse and neglect is one indicator that a community has neglected to provide essential family support services. Abuse and neglect are also more likely when a family cannot meet its basic needs for food, shelter, medical care, and clothing.

The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased slightly between 1991 and 1994. In 1994, 10,434 reports were confirmed, a decrease of 5.6% since 1993. Children of color are over-represented in reports of abuse and neglect, comprising 40% of substantiated reports in 1994. Thirty-seven percent of reported cases were substantiated in 1994.

FACES, Family and Community Efforts and Support, is the Child Abuse Prevention Council in Becker County. FACES' mission statement is to prevent maltreatment of children through ongoing education and awareness by working with the communities in Becker County. Some of the activities through which they provide education are handing out brochures with a child abuse prevention message and distributing buttons supporting National Child Abuse Prevention month. FACES also involves teenagers in the council to help them become aware and involved in preventing child abuse in Becker County communities.

County	1991	1992	1993	1994
Aitkin	22	17	47	36
Anoka	401	490	503	403
Becker	71	53	105	105
Beltrami	90	109	105	180
Benton	52	38	48	69
Big Stone	13	3	2	6
Blue Earth	188	215	270	176
Brown	32	32	34	31
Carlton	34	14	24	34
Carver	56	64	78	85
Cass	90	83	105	87
Chippewa	41	52	66	14
Chisago	65	47	51	96
Clay	101	126	125	155
Clearwater	13	11	18	6
Cook	15	7	6	6
Cottonwood	57	43	27	32
Crow Wing	206	225	245	188
Dakota	585	576	581	501
Dodge	21	37	51	37
Douglas	155	114	102	104
Faribault	66	57	42	44
Fillmore	30	38	31	28
Freeborn	101	119	80	94
Goodhue	85	86	102	109
Grant	2	14	5	14
Hennepin	3,048	3,692	3,545	3,390
Houston	14	36	38	13
Hubbard	62	66	57	53
Isanti	33	22	34	52
Itasca	24	14	36	17
Jackson	12	21	8	4
Kanabec	9	11	12	22
Kandiyohi	77	92	69	87
Kittson	1	5	5	5
Koochiching	25	18	17	28
Lac qui Parle	4	8	2	26
Lake	12	25	19	12
Lake...Woods	4	19	8	9

County	1991	1992	1993	1994
LeSueur	44	34	56	27
Lincoln	8	14	18	6
Lyon	41	37	86	61
MacLeod	113	132	123	142
Mahnomen	29	11	23	18
Marshall	12	11	43	24
Martin	28	48	56	29
Meeker	11	13	19	9
Mille Lacs	84	79	49	34
Morrison	45	51	37	52
Mower	54	54	43	90
Murray	8	19	13	4
Nicollet	249	147	95	51
Nobles	49	45	43	19
Norman	10	13	9	14
Olmsted	158	188	173	174
Otter Tail	137	115	105	120
Pennington	8	6	6	9
Pine	11	10	14	11
Pipestone	24	65	45	34
Polk	147	150	135	138
Pope	25	57	28	23
Ramsey	1,233	1,359	1,350	1,458
Red Lake	3	3	6	5
Redwood	23	15	58	25
Renville	28	27	45	52
Rice	23	73	94	68
Rock	11	24	40	21
Roseau	16	12	16	12
Saint Louis	510	513	458	287
Scott	140	158	131	134
Sherburne	41	48	52	66
Sibley	37	43	70	27
Stearns	106	126	129	135
Steele	100	139	64	98
Stevens	5	12	3	4
Swift	28	18	31	42
Todd	43	35	31	33
Traverse	10	27	13	11

Statewide Statistics	**1991**	**1992**	**1993**	**1994***
Children Abused and Neglected (reports substantiated by county agencies)	10,224	11,217	11,058	10,434
Children of Color) (includes Hispanic	3,318	n/a	3,816	4,063
African-American	1,768	n/a	2,273	2,393
American Indian	909	n/a	870	866
Asian	217	n/a	195	206
Hispanic	424	n/a	478	598

* 1994 data is preliminary

County	1991	1992	1993	1994
Wabasha	36	31	46	23
Wadena	89	43	41	34
Waseca	38	22	22	20
Washington	219	226	198	148
Watonwan	29	20	43	38
Wilkin	35	17	15	19
Winona	69	121	64	89
Wright	119	74	79	101
Yellow Med.	21	33	43	37
Minnesota	10,224	11,217	11,064	10,434

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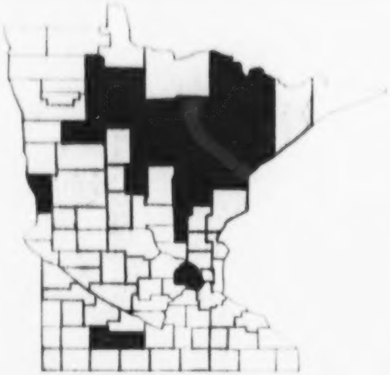
Children in Out-of-Home Placements



Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Placements in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐ Significantly Better Than Average

▨ At or Near Average

■ Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

The Minnesota Department of Human Services has set a goal of reducing out-of-home placements in foster care, emergency shelters, and other residential placements by 50% by the year 2000. At the same time, costs for out-of-home placements are rising, the number of children in the system is rising, and congressional support for social spending is at a 60-year low. Federal changes to programs for low-income children and families will have significant effects on the child welfare system.

Minnesota counties with a high-than-average poverty rate for children are more likely to have higher rates of out-of-home placement. Children of color in Minnesota are much more likely to be in out-of-home placements than are white children, especially emergency placements. The increase in placements is also affected by an increase in adolescent placements because of delinquency, behavior problems or other behavioral reasons.

Removing a child from his or her family is expensive. The cost of a year in family foster care ranges from $4,836 to 6,168, depending on the child's age. (Additional payments for children with special needs and disabilities can add up to $4,000 per year to that cost.) The cost of residential care in group homes ranges from $22,000 to over $90,000 per year depending on the facility and level of care. In contrast, costs for both family preservation services and adoption are significantly lower. Many counties are aggressively pursuing family support and preservation strategies for budgetary as well as philosophical reasons.

In 1994, 18,492 children were in out-of-home placements, a decrease of 5.8% since 1993. From 1993, the number of children increased by 11%. This decrease occurred in every racial group except Asian, which had a very small increase in placements.

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Aitkin	47	55	75	78	67
Anoka	874	975	1063	1084	1157
Becker	110	112	122	162	153
Beltrami	201	230	231	261	234
Benton	53	70	76	78	78
Big Stone	9	10	2	8	17
Blue Earth	141	169	172	149	185
Brown	63	56	57	74	69
Carlton	134	119	124	158	170
Carver	114	113	146	175	199
Cass	190	198	233	231	223
Chippewa	29	26	35	36	38
Chisago	137	126	144	194	195
Clay	214	179	194	266	269
Clearwater	32	35	38	40	56
Cook	12	13	10	12	9
Cottonwood	45	46	46	56	81
Crow Wing	175	235	228	247	204
Dakota	805	869	921	937	830
Dodge	40	35	31	36	64
Douglas	27	33	30	35	27
Faribault	52	52	38	59	68
Fillmore	29	22	27	23	28
Freeborn	110	111	94	104	123
Goodhue	133	119	119	142	151
Grant	9	12	11	14	16
Hennepin	5813	6283	6713	6878	5457
Houston	24	31	32	30	30
Hubbard	89	75	85	72	77
Isanti	121	112	138	171	164
Itasca	206	250	273	286	294
Jackson	29	34	42	43	53
Kanabec	24	30	32	43	65
Kandiyohi	148	172	183	159	140
Kittson	4	10	8	7	7
Koochiching	63	65	77	56	60
Lac qui Parle	15	16	23	27	26
Lake	37	36	31	31	45
Lake...Woods	13	10	8	6	9

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
LeSueur	41	44	73	71	58
Lincoln	**8**	**12**	**8**	**7**	**6**
Lyon	**105**	**87**	**86**	**71**	**98**
MacLeod	**55**	**70**	**55**	**48**	**37**
Mahnomen	**59**	**52**	**56**	**73**	**80**
Marshall	16	20	20	23	27
Martin	59	71	71	83	95
Meeker	54	48	49	64	73
Mille Lacs	98	86	109	107	119
Morrison	**61**	**46**	**36**	**51**	**75**
Mower	**96**	**104**	**81**	**112**	**137**
Murray	**16**	**14**	**12**	**10**	**10**
Nicollet	79	121	111	107	93
Nobles	67	77	89	93	101
Norman	17	29	33	17	16
Olmsted	227	250	264	254	246
Otter Tail	205	216	200	208	186
Pennington	**19**	**23**	**30**	**24**	**36**
Pine	**91**	**83**	**87**	**94**	**98**
Pipestone	**54**	**47**	**45**	**53**	**40**
Polk	159	143	135	148	158
Pope	20	28	36	33	27
Ramsey	1545	1835	1582	1652	1710
Red Lake	8	3	5	7	11
Redwood	55	61	87	79	70
Renville	**56**	**54**	**58**	**56**	**53**
Rice	**121**	**127**	**79**	**84**	**98**
Rock	**11**	**28**	**29**	**26**	**47**
Roseau	**25**	**22**	**22**	**27**	**31**
Saint Louis	1400	1490	1484	1490	1459
Scott	101	146	132	127	116
Sherburne	63	54	50	51	82
Sibley	25	32	42	28	24
Stearns	**277**	**271**	**249**	**326**	**357**
Steele	**57**	**68**	**79**	**109**	**99**
Stevens	**15**	**20**	**17**	**16**	**18**
Swift	**20**	**17**	**25**	**38**	**30**
Todd	40	62	57	79	76
Traverse	9	11	15	9	0
Wabasha	51	45	51	81	84
Wadena	**78**	**59**	**49**	**64**	**54**
Waseca	**53**	**42**	**42**	**43**	**45**
Washington	**371**	**397**	**416**	**432**	**436**
Watonwan	**37**	**44**	**65**	**58**	**67**
Wilkin	**41**	**36**	**44**	**56**	**43**
Winona	67	59	64	71	81
Wright	244	267	293	363	399
Yellow Med.	30	31	39	45	48
Minnesota	16,777	18,096	18,673	19,636	18,492

	1991	1992	1993	1994*	1995*
Children in Out-of-Home Placements	16,777	18,096	18,673	19,636	18,492
All Children of Color	5634	6305	6846	7056	6663
African-American	3000	3459	3860	4007	3685
American Indian	1865	2130	2108	2176	2034
Asian	344	304	316	292	308
Hispanic	425	412	562	581	636

* 1994 and 1995 data is preliminary

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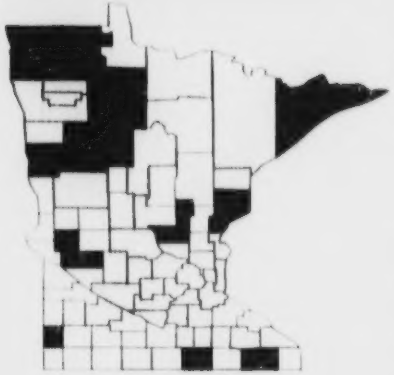
Children Dying Violently



Number of Children Dying Violently in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

☐ Significantly Better Than Average

▨ At or Near Average

■ Significantly Worse Than Average

When a child is murdered by another child or adult, commits suicide, or is fatally injured, nothing will bring that child back to life. Although relatively few children die each year in Minnesota, each death is an irrecoverable loss.

While deaths by homicide and suicide often attract more attention, the leading cause of child death is unintentional injuries. The most common are motor vehicle crashes (children as occupants, pedestrians and bicyclists), drowning, fires and burns, suffocation, poisoning and choking, unintentional shootings, and falls. Many children also suffer lifelong disabilities from unintentional injuries. The death or injury of a child affects their family emotionally, physically and financially, as well costing Minnesota millions of dollars in health care costs.

Research has consistently shown that injuries occur at higher rates among children of color and low-income children. These children are more likely to live in impoverished environments and lack access to safety devices such as smoke detectors.

In 1995, 211 children died violently in Minnesota. This included 34 suicides, 29 homicides, 75 motor vehicle crashes. Forty-four of those children were children of color. This number has varied up and down between 1991 and 1995. The large increase in 1995 is primarily in the area of other injuries, although there is also a small increase in homicides. Because of the very small number of deaths compared to the total population of children, comparisons over time for most counties should be interpreted with care.

Recognizing that injuries are the leading cause of preventable death, Hennepin County Emergency Medical Services has begun the HOPE Program. The first pilot program, located in the suburban Hennepin County community of Eden Prairie, seeks to provide the community with proactive, innovative injury prevention programs through community partnerships.

The program has many components. These include improving awareness of injury prevention in the public and private sectors; linking traffic and medical records in a comprehensive surveillance system, developing programs to reduce injuries to children at home; improving protection from bicycle, motorcycle and auto injuries; and enhancing prevention training of health care professionals.

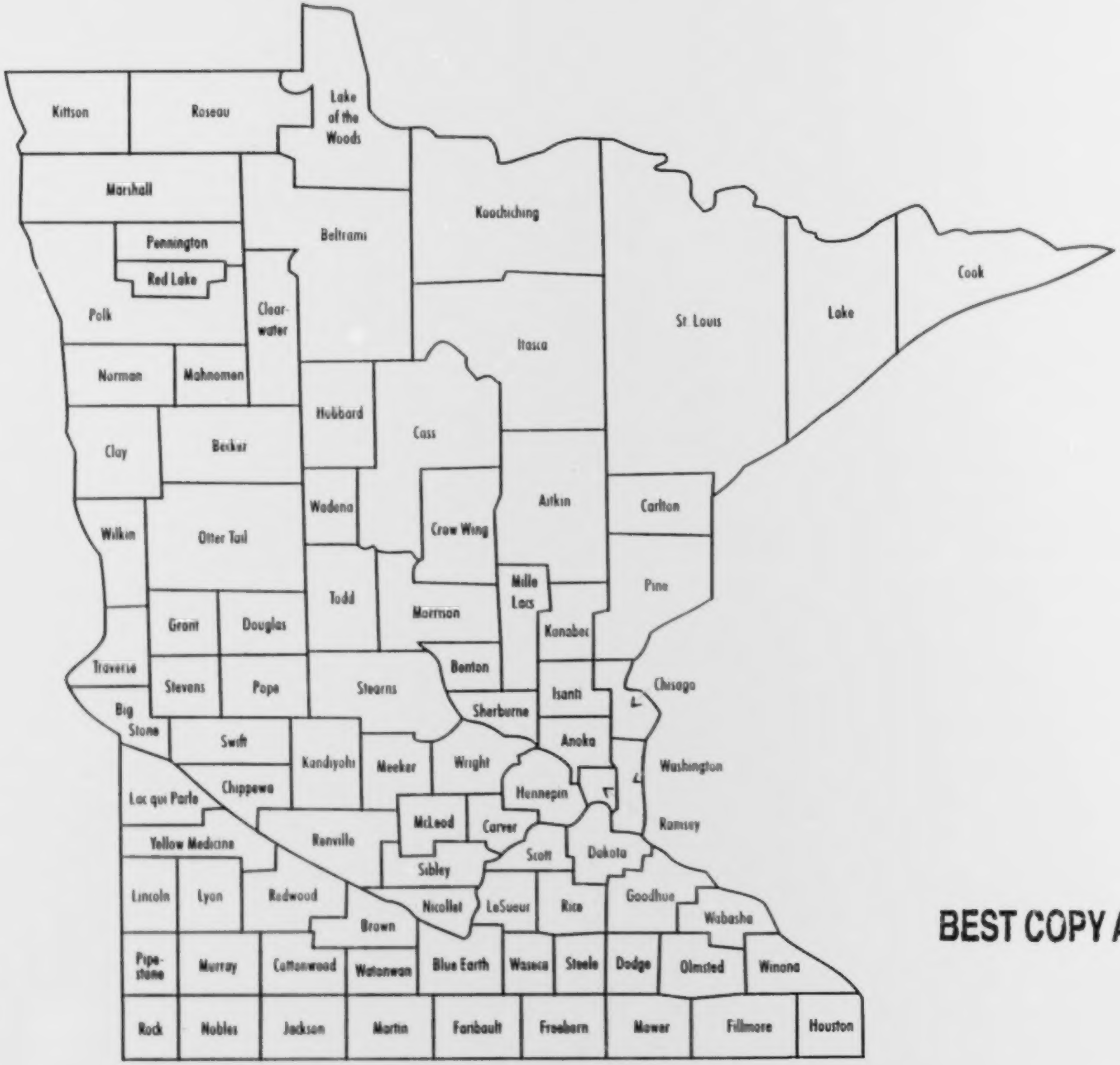
County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Aitkin	1	1	1	0	0
Anoka	7	13	12	11	7
Becker	2	6	1	2	4
Beltrami	2	2	6	4	8
Benton	3	0	1	2	5
Big Stone	0	0	1	1	0
Blue Earth	1	3	5	0	1
Brown	2	1	0	2	0
Carlton	3	1	2	0	0
Carver	3	7	1	1	3
Cass	4	0	4	1	1
Chippewa	1	0	0	0	0
Chisago	2	4	5	3	1
Clay	2	1	1	1	10
Clearwater	1	2	1	0	3
Cook	0	1	0	0	1
Cottonwood	0	0	1	3	0
Crow Wing	5	0	7	2	0
Dakota	5	13	14	3	14
Dodge	3	2	0	1	0
Douglas	0	4	0	1	0
Faribault	1	0	1	0	1
Fillmore	0	0	1	2	2
Freeborn	2	1	1	2	3
Goodhue	3	0	2	1	1
Grant	0	1	0	0	0
Hennepin	35	37	32	37	43
Houston	1	1	0	1	0
Hubbard	0	0	1	0	2
Isanti	4	2	2	2	2
Itasca	3	3	4	1	1
Jackson	0	1	0	0	0
Kanabec	2	1	0	0	0
Kandiyohi	6	0	1	2	2
Kittson	1	0	0	0	2
Koochiching	3	3	1	2	1
Lac qui Parle	0	0	1	2	0
Lake	0	0	0	0	2
Lake...Woods	0	0	0	0	0

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
LeSueur	1	2	4	1	1
Lincoln	0	0	1	0	0
Lyon	2	2	6	2	2
MacLeod	4	3	0	2	2
Mahnomen	1	0	1	2	1
Marshall	0	2	0	1	2
Martin	0	2	1	0	1
Meeker	3	4	0	0	1
Mille Lacs	0	0	0	1	5
Morrison	3	3	2	1	2
Mower	2	1	0	2	1
Murray	0	1	0	0	0
Nicollet	1	1	0	0	1
Nobles	0	1	0	0	0
Norman	0	0	1	0	0
Olmsted	6	2	2	1	3
Otter Tail	1	2	2	4	2
Pennington	0	0	2	1	1
Pine	0	1	3	0	5
Pipestone	0	1	0	0	1
Polk	2	2	2	2	1
Pope	0	1	0	1	0
Ramsey	13	20	23	18	15
Red Lake	0	0	0	2	0
Redwood	0	0	0	2	1
Renville	2	0	3	2	1
Rice	3	1	1	2	1
Rock	0	1	1	1	0
Roseau	3	1	2	1	2
Saint Louis	11	12	5	8	5
Scott	3	2	1	2	5
Sherburne	2	4	3	4	1
Sibley	0	0	4	0	1
Stearns	7	7	5	9	4
Steele	2	1	2	0	3
Stevens	0	0	0	0	1
Swift	2	1	1	2	1
Todd	0	4	2	0	2
Traverse	0	0	1	0	0

Statewide Statistics

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Children Dying Violently	199	213	204	183	211
Murder	21	20	23	19	29
Suicide	28	39	27	16	34
Motor Vehicle Crashes	73	84	75	108	75
Children of Color (does not include Hispanic)	30	32	41	41	44
Hispanic	6	6	10	3	12

County	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Wabasha	0	2	0	0	0
Wadena	1	1	3	1	0
Waseca	1	0	1	2	1
Washington	7	8	0	5	9
Watonwan	1	0	5	0	0
Wilkin	1	0	1	0	0
Winona	2	1	1	1	2
Wright	4	3	1	10	3
Yellow Med.	0	2	1	0	0
Minnesota	199	213	204	183	211


Kittson
Roseau
Lake of the Woods
Marshall
Beltrami
Koochiching
Pennington
Red Lake
Polk
Clearwater
Cook
St. Louis
Lake
Itasca
Norman
Mahnomen
Hubbard
Cass
Clay
Becker
Aitkin
Carlton
Wadena
Crow Wing
Wilkin
Otter Tail
Mille Lacs
Pine
Todd
Morrison
Grant
Douglas
Kanabec
Traverse
Benton
Stevens
Pope
Stearns
Isanti
Chisago
Big Stone
Sherburne
Swift
Kandiyohi
Meeker
Wright
Anoka
Washington
Chippewa
Hennepin
Lac qui Parle
Ramsey
McLeod
Carver
Renville
Yellow Medicine
Scott
Dakota
Sibley
Lincoln
Lyon
Redwood
Nicollet
LeSueur
Rice
Goodhue
Wabasha
Brown
Pipestone
Murray
Cottonwood
Watonwan
Blue Earth
Waseca
Steele
Dodge
Olmsted
Winona
Rock
Nobles
Jackson
Martin
Faribault
Freeborn
Mower
Fillmore
Houston

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60

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Minnesota

Minnesota is the twentieth largest state in the United States. The per capita income in 1993 was $20,979, nineteenth in the country and slightly higher than the national average. The largest industries in 1993 were services (25%), durable goods manufacturing (13%), and state and local government (12%). Finance, insurance and real estate was the fastest growing industry, increasing 9% between 1992 and 1993.

Arrests of juveniles for violent crimes of aggravated assault, rape, murder and armed robbery continued to increase each year. The percentage of children of children dropping out of school and the percentage of children born to teenagers also increased slowly over time. The number of children receiving AFDC decreased significantly since 1993. Other indicators show less clear trends. In the most recent national KIDS COUNT data book, which used 1993 figures, Minnesota ranked eighth best in the nation, the same score as the previous year. Although Minnesota ranked eighth best in the percentage of children born with low birth weight, and seventh for high school drop-outs, the state slipped from fourteenth to twentieth in juvenile arrests for violent crimes and ranks twenty-fifth for the percentage of children in poverty.

Demographics (1990)

Estimated population, 1994	4,638,861
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,256,812
Estimated % children, 1994	27.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,209,365
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.9%
Projected population, 2000	4,649,480

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	115,508	*9.6%*	127,329	*10.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	198,407	*25.6%*	222,431	*26.8%*	223,891	*26.8%*	223,891	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1,840	*2.7%*	1,999	*3.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3,339	*5.0%*	3,646	*5.7%*	3,709	*5.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	11,491	*3.5%*	12,930	*3.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1,382	*23.6%*	2,225	*31.0%*	0		2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	10,224		10,434		0		10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	16,777		19,636		18,492		18,492	
Children dying violently	199		194		263		211	

Aitkin

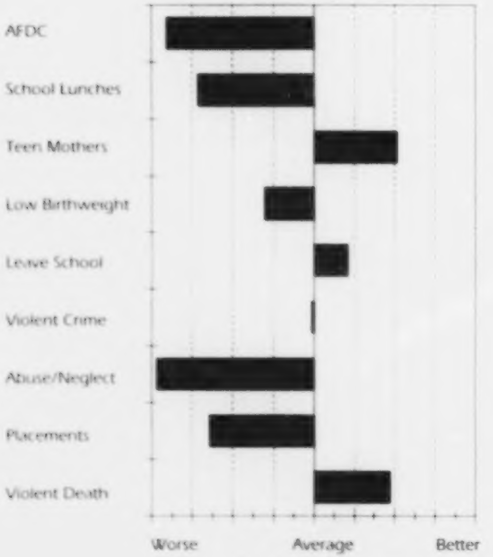
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	13,230
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,126
Estimated % children, 1994	23.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,996
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	4.3%
Projected population, 2000	11,570

Aitkin County is located in northeastern Minnesota and is among the smallest third of counties in population. Its per capita personal income of $14,746 was the sixth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were service, local and state government, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry for the second year in a row, increasing by 26.5% between 1993 and 1994.

Aitkin County did better than the average county in the percentage of births to teen mothers. The county also did well in the low percentage of children dropping out of school. Aitkin County continued to have an above-average number of children receiving AFDC and, while these numbers have not increased, they have not shared in the statewide decrease. Aitkin County also had higher than average rates of out-of-home placement and reports of child abuse and neglect.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Aitkin County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	447	*15.0%*	507	*16.3%*	463	*14.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	506	*55.2%*	1124	*47.1%*	1094	*45.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	3	*2.6%*	3	*2.1%*	2	*1.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	6	*5.2%*	6	*4.2%*	9	*6.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	19	*2.1%*	11	*1.0%*	22	*1.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*50.0%*	5	*27.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	22		36				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	47		78		67		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		211	

Anoka

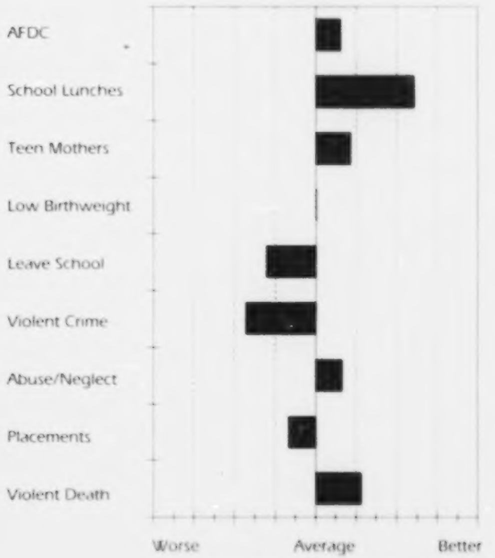
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	273,552
Estimated number of children, 1994	83,867
Estimated % children, 1994	30.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	78,161
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	7.3%
Projected population, 2000	281,870

Anoka County is part of the northern section of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. This county is the fourth largest in Minnesota. The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Construction was the fastest growing industry in 1994, as well as in 1993, increasing by 13% each year. Anoka had a per capita personal income of $19,491, the twentieth highest in the state.

Anoka had lower percent of births to teens, students eligible for free/reduced lunch, and substantiated reports of child abuse and child deaths than the average county. However, the dropout rate increased steadily from 1991 to 1995, along with the number of out-of-home placements. Anoka's rate of arrests for violent crimes by children did not increase, although it is higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Anoka County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	4528	*5.5%*	5189	*6.2%*	4884	*5.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	8416	*15.8%*	10,435	*18.4%*	10,641	*18.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	104	*2.4%*	118	*2.8%*	116	*2.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	208	*4.8%*	221	*5.3%*	226	*5.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	595	*2.6%*	970	*3.8%*	998	*3.8%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	104	*39.7%*	107	*40.7%*			2,225	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	401		403				10,434	
Children in out-of-home placements	874		1084		1157		18,492	
Children dying violently	7		11		7		211	

Becker

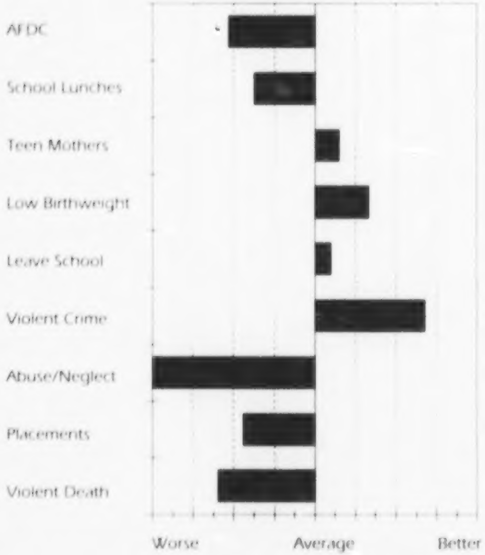
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	29,047
Estimated number of children, 1994	8,418
Estimated % children, 1994	29.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,256
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.0%
Projected population, 2000	25,360

Becker County is located in northwestern Minnesota and is the thirty-fourth largest county in the state. A portion of the White Earth Indian Reservation is located in the county. In 1994, Becker had a per capita personal income of $15,405, which was the thirteenth lowest in the state. Becker County's largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing increased 24% between 1993 and 1994 and was the fastest growing industry for the second year in a row.

Becker County had a decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC from 1993 on, although the percentage was still higher than the average county. The county also made progress in reducing teen births in the last two years. Becker County had increases in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect as well as the number of out-of-home placements.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Becker County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1189	*14.4%*	1057	*12.6%*	983	*11.7%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2004	*39.3%*	2044	*39.3%*	1994	*38.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	19	*4.6%*	13	*3.7%*	10	*3.0%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	17	*4.1%*	17	*4.8%*	14	*4.3%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	31	*1.4%*	41	*1.7%*	56	*2.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*12.5%*	1	*6.7%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	71		105				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	110		162		153		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		4		211	

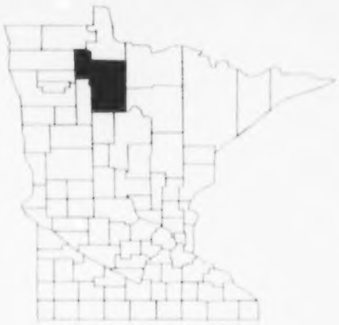
Beltrami

Demographics

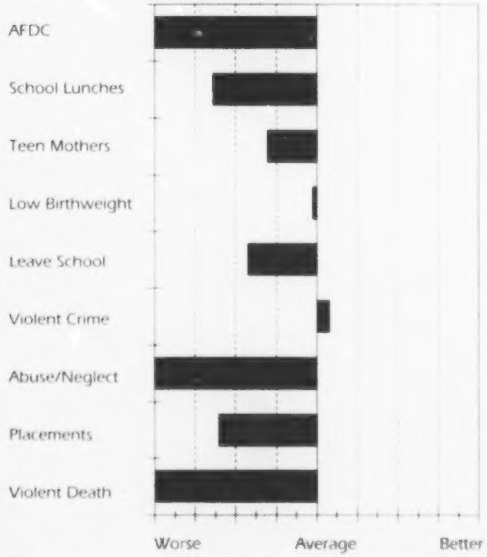
Estimated population, 1994	37,581
Estimated number of children, 1994	11,289
Estimated % children, 1994	30.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	10,622
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	6.3%
Projected population, 2000	36,500

Beltrami County is located in north central Minnesota and is the twenty-third largest county in Minnesota. The Red Lake Indian Reservation is located in the county. In 1994, Beltrami had a per capita personal income of $14,828, the ninth lowest in Minnesota. Services, state and local government, and retail were the largest industries. The fastest growing industry was services, which increased by 17% between 1993 and 1994.

The percentage of low birthweight babies declined in Beltrami County since 1993. The county also did better than average in the number of children arrested for violent crime. Although the AFDC rate was higher than the average county, it has not increased since 1993. Most other indicators of well-being show that children in the county are faring less well than in many other counties in the state.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Beltrami County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	2455	*23.2%*	2660	*23.6%*	2604	*23.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2942	*36.3%*	3884	*44.2%*	3876	*44.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	22	*3.5%*	29	*5.5%*	27	*5.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	23	*3.6%*	25	*4.7%*	29	*5.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	74	*2.3%*	186	*5.1%*	164	*4.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	12	*30.0%*	13	*25.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	90		180				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	201		261		234		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		4		8		211	

Benton

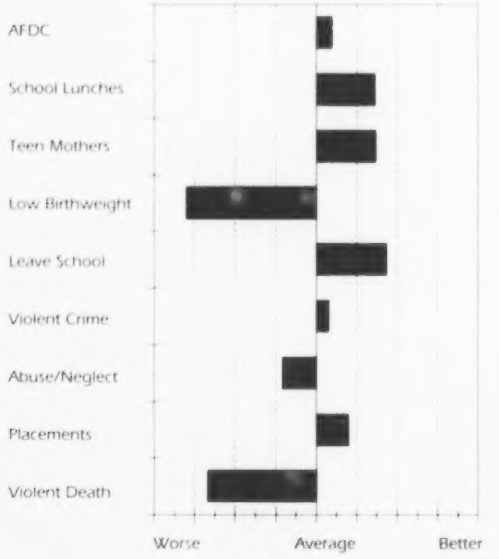
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	32,694
Estimated number of children, 1994	9,848
Estimated % children, 1994	30.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,387
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	4.9%
Projected population, 2000	33,780

Benton County is a moderate-sized county in central Minnesota. It is part of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Statistical Area. Its per capita personal income of $17,016 increased 7.6% from 1993 to 1994, faster than the state average. The largest industries in 1994 in Benton County were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, retail, and durable goods manufacturing, which increased over 27% from 1993.

Children in Benton County did better than the average county's children on several indicators of well-being. However, the number of births to teens, the dropout rate, arrests for violent crimes and out-of-home placements have all increased. In 1995, the number of low birth-weight babies born in Benton County increased significantly. Future years will tell if this is a long-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Benton County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	647	*6.9%*	694	*7.1%*	619	*6.3%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1182	*23.4%*	1270	*22.7%*	1310	*23.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	*0.8%*	9	*1.9%*	10	*2.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	25	*4.8%*	23	*4.8%*	39	*8.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	7	*0.4%*	20	*0.8%*	26	*1.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*12.5%*	4	*25.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	52		69				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	53		78		78		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		2		5		211	

Big Stone

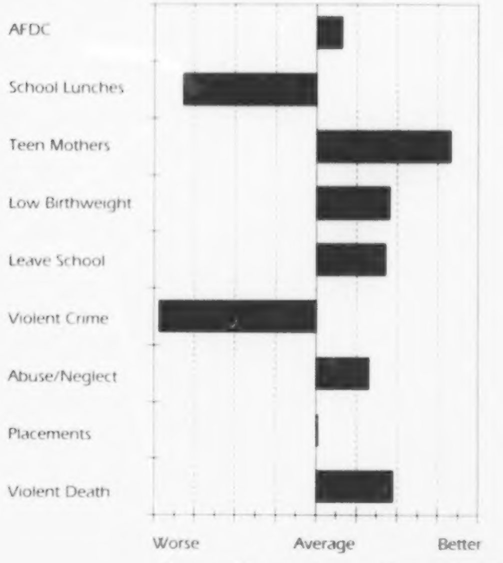
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	6,032
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,559
Estimated % children, 1994	25.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,620
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-3.8%
Projected population, 2000	5,470

Big Stone County is located in west central Minnesota on the South Dakota border. It is the seventh smallest county in the state. In 1994, Big Stone had a per capita personal income of $16,376. This income ranked sixty-seventh in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and farming. The fastest growing industry was construction, increasing by 11% from 1993 to 1994. Farm income decreased significantly during that time.

Big Stone County children did well on many indicators of well-being. For three out of the last five years, no children were born to teens in the county. The number of children arrested for violent crimes increased in 1994, but may not reflect a long-term trend. Rates of free/reduced price school lunch use were consistently above the average county, showing a significant number of low-income children in the county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Big Stone County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	107	*6.6%*	109	*7.0%*	90	*5.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	611	*46.6%*	716	*50.4%*	682	*47.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1	*1.4%*	0		0		2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*4.3%*	2	*3.5%*	2	*3.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	0		3	*0.4%*	8	*1.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		8	*57.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	13		6				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	9		8		17		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		211	

Blue Earth

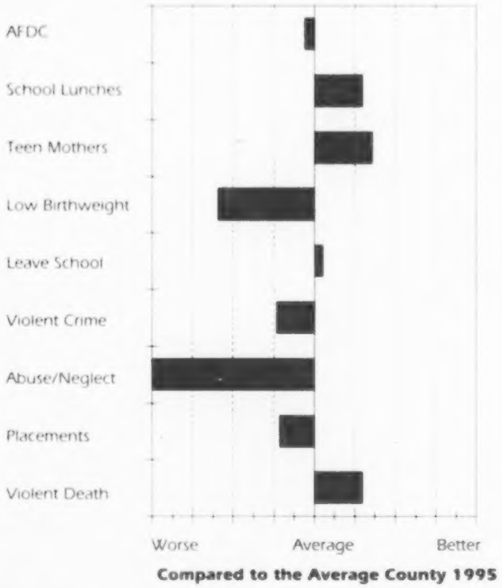
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	54,635
Estimated number of children, 1994	12,783
Estimated % children, 1994	23.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	12,730
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.4%
Projected population, 2000	53,640

Blue Earth County, the twelfth largest county in Minnesota, is located in south central Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $18,982 was the twenty-seventh highest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The durable goods industry was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 15% between 1993 and 1994.

The percentage of children receiving AFDC declined in the county, even though it was still a little higher than the average county. Substantiated child abuse and neglect reports were much higher than average, but decreased somewhat from 1993 to 1994. Blue Earth County had a steady increase in the percent of low birthweight infants and in juvenile arrests for violent crime.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Blue Earth County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1114	*8.8%*	1074	*8.4%*	975	*7.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2361	*22.6%*	2725	*24.3%*	2772	*24.7%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	14	*2.3%*	12	*1.9%*	13	*2.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	19	*3.1%*	25	*4.0%*	45	*7.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	104	*2.5%*	133	*2.7%*	124	*2.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*4.2%*	28	*34.6%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	188		176				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	141		149		185		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		211	

Brown

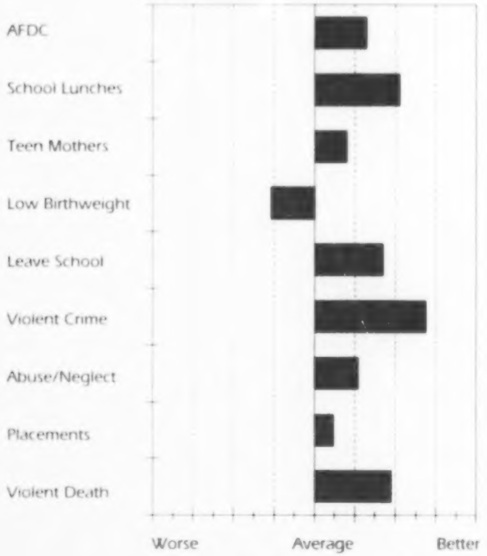
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	27,235
Estimated number of children, 1994	7,459
Estimated % children, 1994	27.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,453
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.1%
Projected population, 2000	25,690

Brown County is a moderate-sized county located along the Minnesota River in the southwestern portion of the state. Brown County had a 1994 per capita personal income of $19,804, which ranked sixteenth in the state. The largest industries were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and durable goods manufacturing. Farm income increased greatly from 1993 to 1994.

Children in Brown County did well on most indicators of child well-being. Most indicators held steady, although there was a slight decrease in the number of children dropping out of school. After a dip in the number of children born with low birth weights in 1992 and 1993, Brown County saw an increase in 1994 and 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Brown County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	307	*4.1%*	366	*4.9%*	329	*4.4%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1305	*21.8%*	1404	*22.4%*	1353	*20.0%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	8	*2.3%*	8	*2.6%*	9	*2.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	23	*6.6%*	18	*5.8%*	20	*6.3%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	29	*1.5%*	28	*1.3%*	25	*1.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*9.1%*	1	*6.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	32		31				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	63		74		69		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		0		211	

Carlton

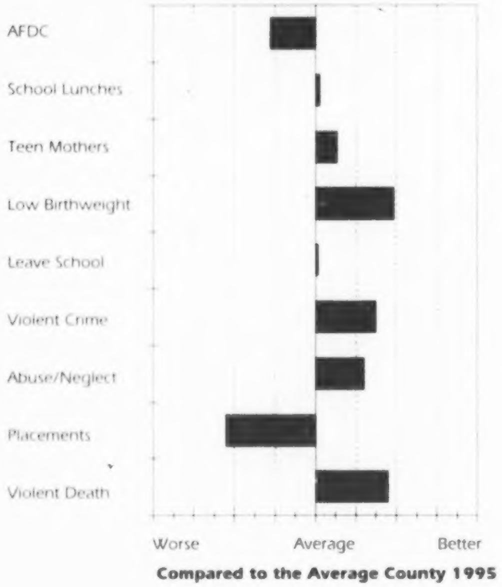
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	30,426
Estimated number of children, 1994	8,521
Estimated % children, 1994	28.01%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,324
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.37%
Projected population, 2000	28,710

Carlton County is a mid-sized county located in northeastern Minnesota on the shore of Lake Superior. It includes part of the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation. In 1994, Carlton had a per capita personal income of $16,462, which ranked sixty-fourth among Minnesota counties. Non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services were the largest industries. The fastest growing industry was services, which increased by almost 10% between 1993 and 1994.

After an increase in 1992 and 1993, Carlton County saw a decrease in the percentage of births to teens, bringing it back to better than the average county. The number of children born with low birth weight also decreased significantly in 1995, although whether this is a long-term trend remains to be seen. Carlton County had a steady increase in the number of children in out-of-home placements since 1993. Although the number of children receiving AFDC has decreased, it is still higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Carlton County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	875	10.5%	820	9.6%	807	9.5%	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2029	30.8%	1902	28.3%	2062	30.3%	223,893	26.8%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	9	2.6%	11	3.1%	10	3.1%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	10	2.9%	20	5.6%	12	3.8%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	101	3.4%	79	2.5%	84	2.6%	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	20.0%	4	16.0%			2,225*	31.0%
Children abused and neglected	34		34				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	134		158		170		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		0		0		211	

Carver

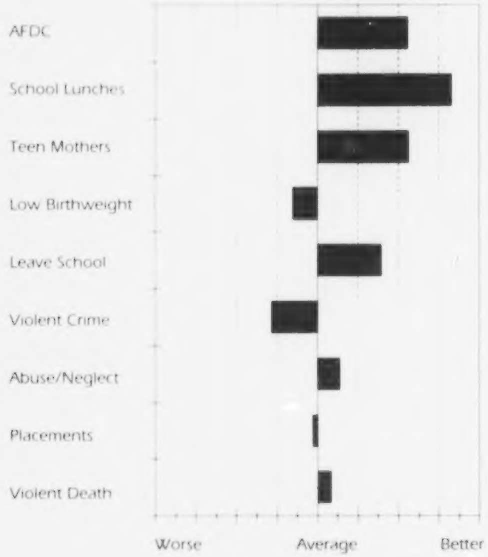
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	56,924
Estimated number of children, 1994	17,202
Estimated % children, 1994	30.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	15,285
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	12.5%
Projected population, 2000	57,390

Carver County, the eleventh largest county in the state, is located on the western edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1994, Carver had the fourth highest per capita personal income in the state: $23,606. The largest industries in 1994 were durable goods manufacturing, non-durable goods manufacturing, and services. The retail trade industry was the fastest growing, increasing by 15% from 1993 to 1994.

The school dropout rate in Carver County dropped significantly from 1991 to 1995, counter to the state trend. The county also had a very low number of births to teens. The number of children born at low birth weight has increased over time and arrests for violent crime, which jumped higher in 1992, have continued to be higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Carver County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	375	*2.5%*	408	*2.4%*	414	*2.4%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1025	*11.6%*	1303	*12.5%*	1478	*13.7%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	14	*1.6%*	9	*0.9%*	12	*1.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	33	*3.7%*	58	*5.7%*	58	*5.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	227	*6.5%*	46	*1.1%*	54	*1.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	*10.3%*	22	*36.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	56		85				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	114		175		199		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		1		3		211	

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Cass

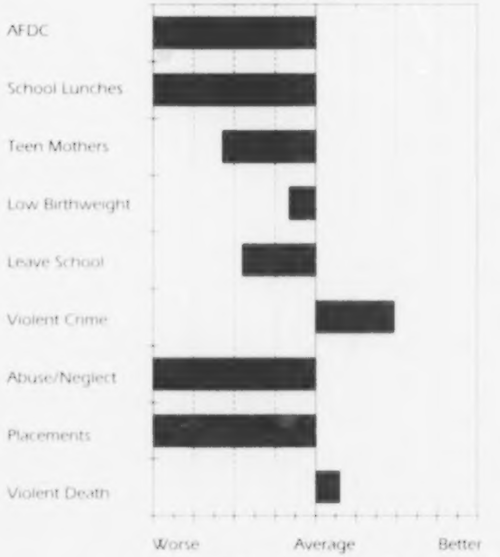
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	23,992
Estimated number of children, 1994	6,535
Estimated % children, 1994	27.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,099
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	7.1%
Projected population, 2000	22,330

Cass County is a moderate-sized county located in north central Minnesota. Part of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation is within the county's borders. Cass County's per capita personal income of $15,345 was the eleventh lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail. The fastest growing was retail trade, which increased by almost 16% from 1993.

The situation for children in Cass County remained largely unchanged from 1991 to 1995. On most indicators, children in Cass County are doing less well than children in the average county. In 1995, the dropout rate improved slightly, as did the number of children born at low birth weight.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cass County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1160	*19.1%*	1172	*18.0%*	1115	*17.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2491	*53.3%*	2752	*55.0%*	2972	*57.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	16	*5.4%*	24	*8.8%*	16	*6.3%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	19	*6.4%*	21	*7.7%*	15	*5.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	105	*5.8%*	114	*5.5%*	89	*4.4%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	*17.9%*	4	*12.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	90		87				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	190		231		223		18,492	
Children dying violently	4		1		1		211	

Chippewa

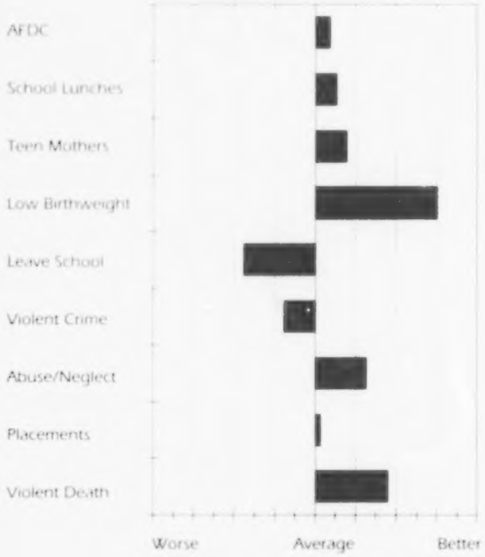
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	13,205
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,589
Estimated % children, 1994	27.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,622
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.9%
Projected population, 2000	11,940

Chippewa County is located in west central Minnesota along the Minnesota River. It is ranked sixtieth in population among counties. During the summer months, the county's population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1994, Chippewa had a per capita personal income of $19,438, which was twenty-first in the state. The largest industries were farming, state and local government, and services. Construction was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 23.4% from 1993 to 1994.

The percentage of low birthweight babies in Chippewa County decreased slightly over time and was well below the average county. The number of births to teens slowly increased from 1991 to 1995. The dropout rate also increased significantly between 1993 and 1994.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Chippewa County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	223	*6.2%*	257	*7.2%*	228	*6.4%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	693	*28.3%*	849	*29.9%*	784	*28.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	0		4	*2.5%*	4	*2.9%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*3.4%*	5	*3.1%*	4	*2.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	19	*1.6%*	45	*3.4%*	60	*4.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*14.3%*	1	*33.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	41		14				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	29		36		38		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		211	

Chisago

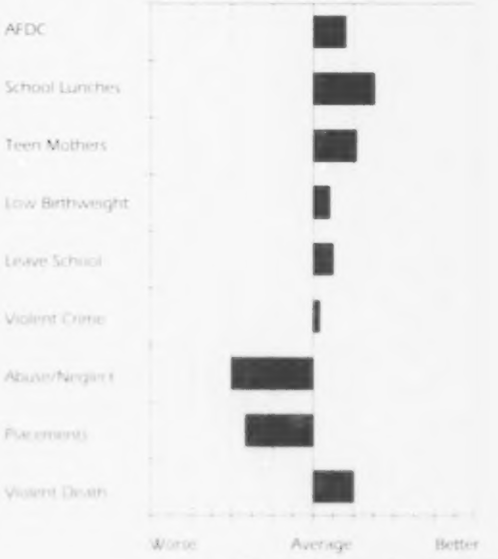
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	35,630
Estimated number of children, 1994	10,969
Estimated % children, 1994	30.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,777
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	12.2%
Projected population, 2000	33,990

Chisago County is located in west central Minnesota on the Wisconsin border and is part of the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Its population ranked twenty-fourth in the state. In 1994, Chisago had a per capita personal income of $17,629 which ranked forty-ninth in the state. The largest industries in the county were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing, which increased 26% from 1993 to 1994.

The drop-out rate for children in Chisago County steadily declined from 1991 to 1995, contrary to the state trend. Most other indicators for the county's children have held relatively steady over time. The county had higher-than-average numbers of children in out-of-home placements and higher-than-average substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. Both of those indicators increased since 1991.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Chisago County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	579	*5.9%*	632	*5.8%*	593	*5.4%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1372	*22.9%*	1596	*24.1%*	1583	*23.0%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	10	*2.1%*	9	*1.8%*	13	*2.5%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	21	*4.4%*	19	*3.9%*	26	*5.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	124	*4.3%*	79	*2.5%*	71	*2.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	*6.8%*	6	*26.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	65		96				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	137		194		195		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		3		1		211	

Clay

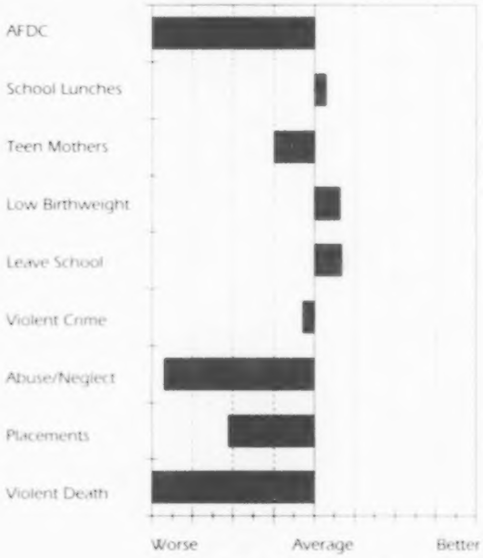
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	53,419
Estimated number of children, 1994	13,776
Estimated % children, 1994	25.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	13,302
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.6%
Projected population, 2000	52,010

Clay County is located in northwestern Minnesota on the North Dakota border. It is part of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Statistical Area and is the fourteenth largest county in Minnesota. Clay County's population during the summer months includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1994, Clay County had a per capita personal income of $16,204, which ranked sixty-ninth among Minnesota counties. The largest industries were state and local government, services, and retail. Construction increased by 18% between 1993 and 1994.

Clay County continued to have a very low dropout rate. The percent of children receiving AFDC in Clay County leveled off from 1994 to 1995, after a significant increase. The number of substantiated child abuse and neglect reports and out-of-home placements were higher than the average county and have also increased over time. Sharp increases in arrests of juveniles for violent crime and child deaths may indicate longer-term trends or may be single-year fluctuations.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Clay County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1765	*13.3%*	2316	*16.8%*	2220	*16.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2415	*28.2%*	2827	*31.5%*	2684	*29.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	23	*3.5%*	32	*4.9%*	34	*4.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	30	*4.6%*	24	*3.7%*	34	*4.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	48	*1.3%*	61	*1.5%*	87	*2.0%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	*10.9%*	18	*29.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	101		155				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	214		266		269		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		1		10		211	

Clearwater

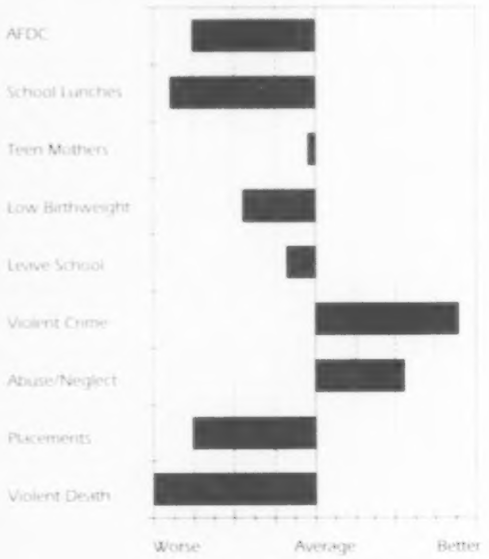
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	8,336
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,414
Estimated % children, 1994	29.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,408
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.3%
Projected population, 2000	7,980

Clearwater County, in northwestern Minnesota, is the twelfth smallest county in the state. Portions of the Red Lake Indian Reservation are located within the county. The county's 1994 per capita personal income of $13,875 was the third lowest in Minnesota. State and local government, construction, and services were the county's largest industries in 1994. The fastest growing industry was finance, insurance, and real estate, which more than doubled from 1993 to 1994.

Fewer children were receiving AFDC in Clearwater County in 1995 than in 1991. Free/reduced price school lunch usage remained high, which indicates a significant number of low-income students. Clearwater County had no arrests for violent crimes for three out of the last five years. The county had an increasing number of out-of-home placements, although its substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect are falling and are lower than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Clearwater County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	410	*17.1%*	364	*15.1%*	327	*13.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	824	*45.2%*	906	*47.6%*	906	*49.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	3.3%	6	6.3%	4	3.9%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	5	*4.1%*	4	*4.2%*	7	6.9%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	28	3.4%	14	*1.6%*	29	3.3%	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	13		6				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	32		40		56		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		3		211	

Cook

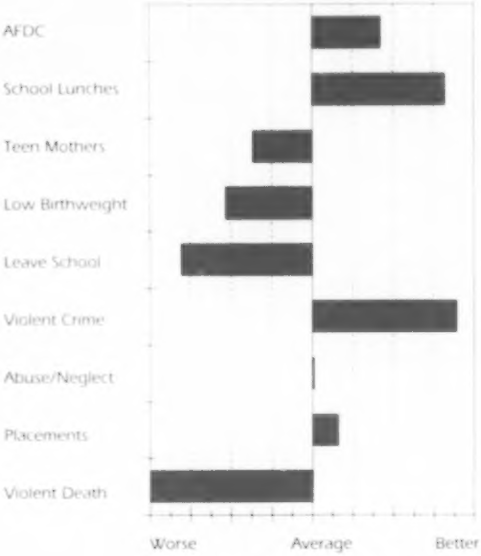
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	4,387
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,049
Estimated % children, 1994	23.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	962
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	9.0%
Projected population, 2000	3,700

Cook County is the third smallest county in Minnesota. It is located in the Arrowhead Region of northeastern Minnesota bordering Canada and Lake Superior. The Grand Portage Indian Reservation is located in the county. Its per capita personal income of $19,999 was the fifteenth highest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The fastest growing was construction, which increased 13.5% between 1993 and 1994.

The dropout rate for children in Cook County was higher than the average county in 1992, 1994 and 1995, and increased gradually over time. Most other indicators have remained relatively steady.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cook County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	40	*4.2%*	38	*3.6%*	37	*3.5%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	108	*16.5%*	105	*16.4%*	91	*13.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	0		3	*5.5%*	3	*5.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*2.2%*	4	*7.3%*	4	*7.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	5	*1.7%*	16	*5.0%*	19	*5.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	15		6				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	12		12		9		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		211	

Cottonwood

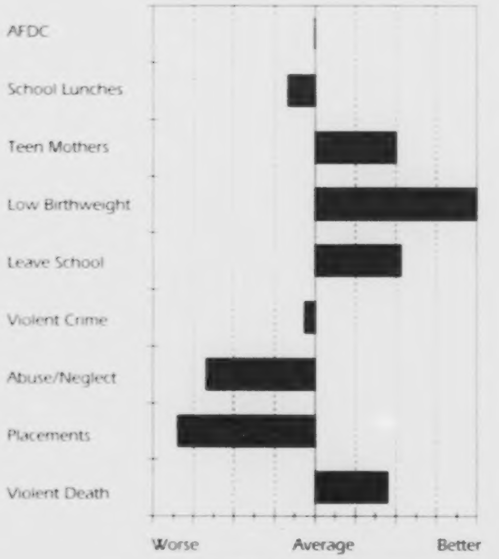
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	12,577
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,284
Estimated % children, 1994	26.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,273
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.3%
Projected population, 2000	11,390

Cottonwood County is a moderately small county located in southwestern Minnesota. Cottonwood County's per capita personal income of $19,179 ranked twenty-fifth in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was retail trade, which increased almost 11%.

Cottonwood County had a drop in both teen births and children born at low birth weight in 1995 after higher rates in 1992 through 1994. School dropout rates also remained quite low. Although substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect declined, they were still above the average county. Out-of-home placements increased significantly, with a large jump from 1994 to 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cottonwood County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	221	*6.8%*	256	*7.8%*	235	*7.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	749	*31.2%*	888	*36.1%*	828	*34.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	3	*2.2%*	6	*4.3%*	2	*1.5%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*3.6%*	7	*5.1%*	1	*0.7%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	9	*0.8%*	9	*0.8%*	8	*0.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		5	*29.4%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	57		32				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	45		56		81		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		3		0		211	

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Crow Wing

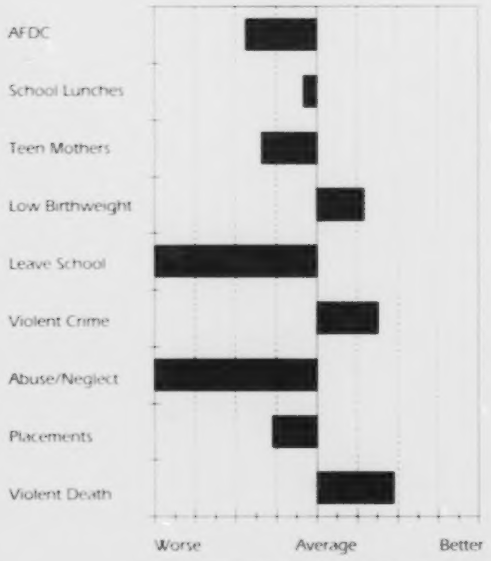
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	49,111
Estimated number of children, 1994	13,213
Estimated % children, 1994	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	12,332
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	7.1%
Projected population, 2000	46,200

Crow Wing County is located in the north central portion of Minnesota and is the seventeenth largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Construction increased by 14% from 1993 to 1994, making it the fastest growing industry. In 1994, Crow Wing County had a per capita personal income of $17,755, forty-six highest in the state.

Crow Wing County had a decline in the number of children receiving AFDC, although the rate was still higher than the average county. The percentage of teen births and school dropouts increased over time. Both substantiated reports of child abuse and out-of-home placements dropped sharply in 1995. This may or may not indicate a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Crow Wing County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1510	*12.3%*	1523	*11.5%*	1428	*10.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2984	*33.1%*	3246	*33.3%*	3226	*32.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	21	*3.3%*	24	*4.1%*	31	*5.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	29	*4.6%*	26	*4.4%*	26	*4.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	180	*4.4%*	235	*5.0%*	319	*6.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*6.5%*	6	*15.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	206		188				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	175		247		204		18,492	
Children dying violently	5		2		0		211	

Dakota

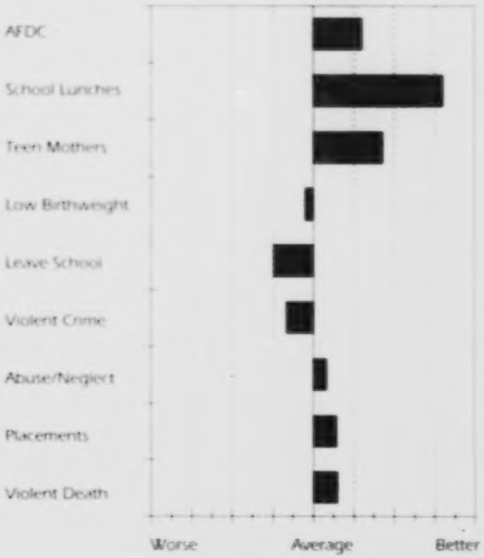
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	314,428
Estimated number of children, 1994	94,616
Estimated % children, 1994	30.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	87,463
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	8.2%
Projected population, 2000	347,220

Dakota County is the third largest county in the state and is located in the southeastern portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1994, Dakota had a per capita personal income of $24,217, the third highest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were services, wholesale trade, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Wholesale trade was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 20% from 1993 to 1994.

The percentage of children in Dakota County receiving AFDC decreased in the last two years and was lower than the average county, along with the number of children receiving free / reduced-price school lunch. Teen births were also lower than average. Both the rates of low birth-weight babies and school dropouts increased slightly over time. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect and the number of out-of-home placements both dropped significantly between 1994 and 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Dakota County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	3893	*4.5%*	4508	*4.8%*	4344	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	6292	*11.2%*	8513	*12.9%*	9485	*14.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	66	*1.3%*	91	*1.7%*	94	*1.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	221	*4.4%*	281	*5.4%*	287	*5.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	681	*2.9%*	880	*3.3%*	1004	*3.6%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	42	*23.6%*	74	*32.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	585		501				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	805		937		830		18,492	
Children dying violently	5		3		14		211	

Dodge

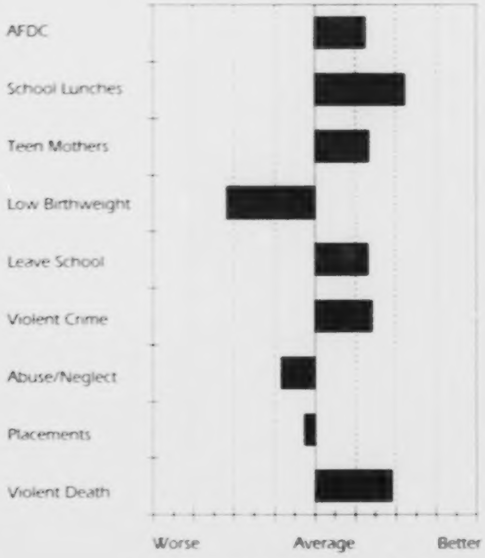
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	16,762
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,279
Estimated % children, 1994	31.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,113
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.3%
Projected population, 2000	16,540

Dodge County is the fifty-third largest county and is located in southeastern Minnesota. The county's per capita personal income was $18,472 in 1994, which ranked thirty-eighth in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and farming. Farming was the fastest growing industry, increasing significantly between 1993 and 1994.

Dodge County children did better than average on many indicators of child well-being. The dropout rate for the county was especially low, although it continued to increase slightly over time. The number of babies born with low birth weight increased sharply in 1995, but whether this is a long-term trend is not yet clear. The number of children in out-of-home placements also greatly increased in 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Dodge County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	193	*3.8%*	241	*4.6%*	238	*4.5%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	767	*20.4%*	864	*22.0%*	731	*19.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	8	*3.1%*	4	*1.8%*	5	*2.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	14	*5.5%*	9	*4.0%*	16	*7.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	11	*0.7%*	24	*1.3%*	27	*1.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*33.3%*	1	*16.7%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	21		37				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	40		36		64		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		1		0		211	

Douglas

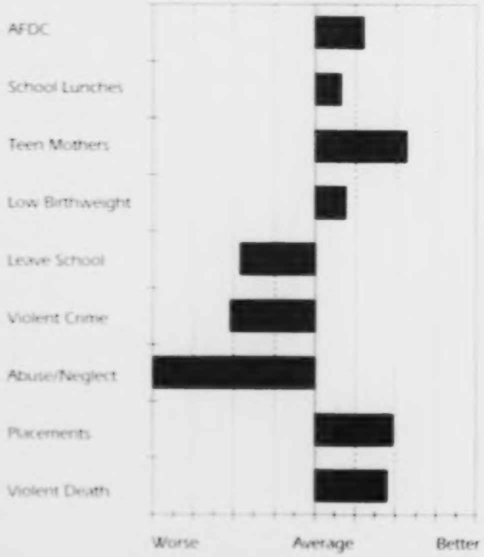
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	30,097
Estimated number of children, 1994	8,136
Estimated % children, 1994	27.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,928
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.6%
Projected population, 2000	28,850

Douglas County, located in west central Minnesota, is the thirty-second largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry since 1993 was construction, which increased 28%. Douglas County had a per capita personal income of $17,250, which ranked fifty-third among Minnesota counties.

Douglas County children had a consistently lower-than-average number of children in out-of-home placements. The percentage of births to teen mothers was also lower than average. The county had higher-than-average reports of child abuse and neglect, violent crime and school dropouts. Only the school dropout rate increased significantly over the last five years, however.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Douglas County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	470	*5.9%*	452	*5.6%*	372	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1757	*28.5%*	1813	*29.1%*	1688	*27.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*1.7%*	11	*3.2%*	4	*1.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	21	*6.1%*	15	*4.3%*	16	*4.7%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	40	*1.6%*	111	*3.8%*	132	*4.4%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	8	*23.6%*	10	*43.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	155		104				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	27		35		27		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		211	

Faribault

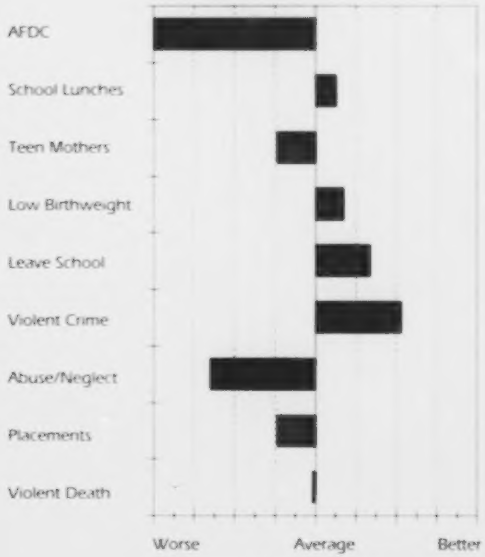
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	16,948
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,563
Estimated % children, 1994	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,580
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.4%
Projected population, 2000	15,020

Faribault County is located in southern Minnesota on the Iowa border, and ranks fifty-second in size among Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, state and local government, and services. The fastest growing industry was non-durable goods manufacturing, which increased almost 27% since 1993. The per capita personal income of Faribault County was $19,643, which ranked nineteenth in the state.

Children in Faribault County had lower-than-average rates of violent crime and dropping out of school. There was a slight but steady increase since 1992 in the number of births to teens. The number of out-of-home placements also increased steadily. Although substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect were higher than the average county, they have declined from 1991 levels.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Faribault County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC (Faribault/Martin)	888	*8.3%*	856	*8.1%*	752	*7.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	904	*27.6%*	914	*30.0%*	854	*28.2%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	*2.3%*	6	*3.6%*	8	*4.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	13	*7.3%*	8	*4.8%*	8	*4.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	15	*1.1%*	22	*1.5%*	21	*1.4%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*7.7%*	1	*11.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	66		44				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	52		59		68		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		211	

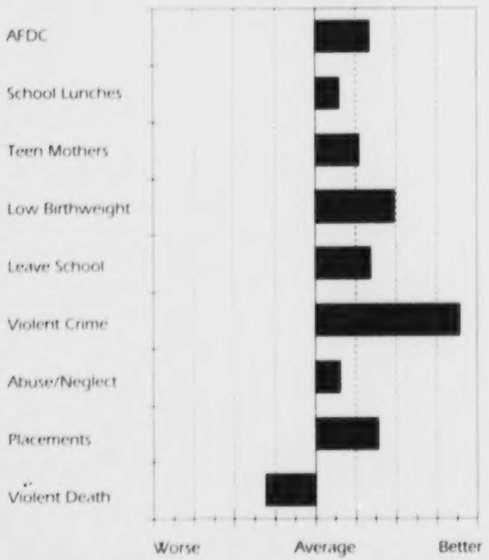
Fillmore

Fillmore County is a moderate-sized county located along the Iowa border in southeastern Minnesota. In 1993, Fillmore had a per capita personal income of $16,447 which ranked sixty-sixth in the state. Fillmore County's largest industries were farming, services, and state and local government. The industry experiencing the largest growth between 1993 and 1994 was farming.

Children in Fillmore County did better than average on almost all indicators of child well-being. Fillmore County had no juvenile arrests for violent crime during the last five years. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect decreased over the past four years, and AFDC use decreased from 1994 to 1995, in line with state trends.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	20,838
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,748
Estimated % children, 1994	27.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,745
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.1%
Projected population, 2000	19,950


Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Fillmore County

Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	224	3.9%	289	5.0%	246	4.3%	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	991	28.3%	991	27.7%	982	27.7%	223,893	26.8%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	9	3.2%	4	1.9%	6	2.5%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	9	3.2%	14	6.6%	9	3.7%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	20	1.2%	16	0.9%	24	1.4%	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	31.0%
Children abused and neglected	30		28				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	29		23		28		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		2		2		211	

Freeborn

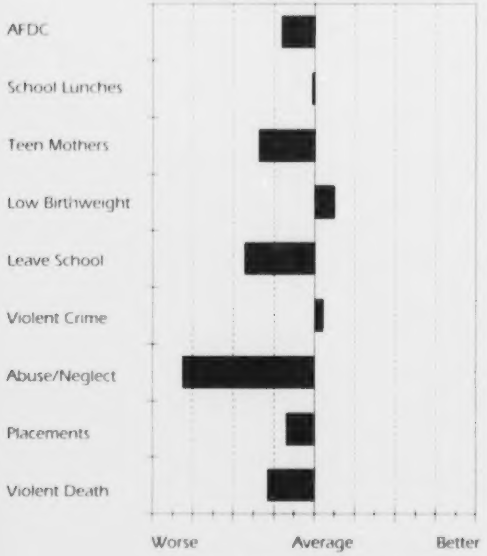
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	33,759
Estimated number of children, 1994	8,886
Estimated % children, 1994	26.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,912
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.3%
Projected population, 2000	30,640

Freeborn County is located in southeastern Minnesota along the Iowa border. It is the twenty-seventh largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Freeborn County saw a significant improvement in farming income between 1993 and 1994. Freeborn's per capita personal income was $17,841, which ranked forty-fourth among Minnesota counties.

Freeborn County significantly reduced the percentage of babies born at low birth weight over the last five years, so that in 1995, the county was slightly better than average on this indicator. Although the percent of children on AFDC was higher than average, it also declined from 1994 to 1995, as did births to teens. There were more substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect in the county than in the average county, but they also declined since 1993.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Freeborn County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	771	*8.7%*	823	*9.3%*	784	*8.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1218	*24.2%*	1439	*29.5%*	1539	*31.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	15	*3.8%*	20	*5.7%*	17	*5.3%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	32	*8.1%*	15	*4.3%*	16	*5.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	108	*4.2%*	100	*4.1%*	106	*4.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	4		17	*25.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	101		94				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	110		104		123		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		3		211	

Goodhue

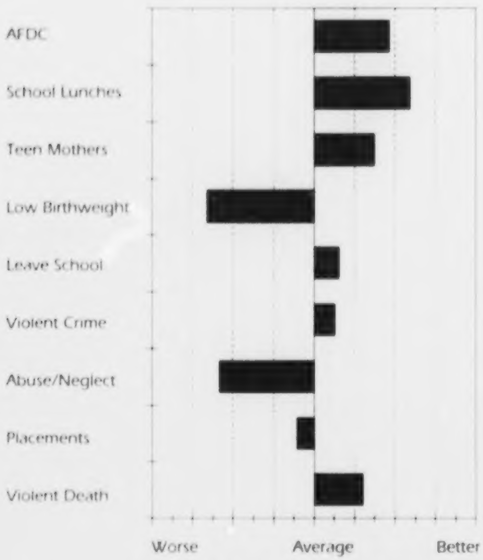
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	42,229
Estimated number of children, 1994	11,831
Estimated % children, 1994	28.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,614
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.9%
Projected population, 2000	41,480

Goodhue County is located in southeastern Minnesota along the Mississippi River and the Wisconsin border. It's the twentieth largest county in Minnesota. The Prairie Island Indian Reservation lies within its borders. The largest industries in the county were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The county experienced a 14% increase in state and local government from 1993 to 1994. The per capita income of $20,278 ranked tenth in the state.

Goodhue County had a decrease in children receiving AFDC between 1991 and 1995. Goodhue County also had fewer children than average receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. Areas for concern include a significant jump that occurred between 1994 and 1995 in the number of children born at low birth weight, and a rising trend in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Goodhue County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	581	*5.0%*	398	*3.4%*	374	*3.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1320	*16.5%*	1717	*18.7%*	1709	*18.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	10	*1.8%*	12	*2.3%*	10	*2.0%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	21	*3.8%*	25	*4.8%*	37	*7.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	79	*2.2%*	98	*2.3%*	92	*2.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*5.3%*	8	*23.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	85		109				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	133		142		151		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		211	

Grant

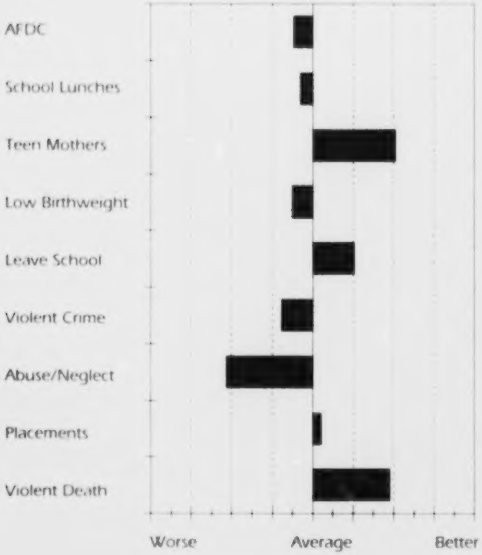
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	6,138
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,565
Estimated % children, 1994	25.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,609
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-2.7%
Projected population, 2000	5,620

Grant County is a small county located in west central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1994 were services, farming, and state and local government. The greatest growth was in farm income, which increased substantially between 1993 and 1994. In 1994, Grant had a per capita personal income of $19,671. This ranked eighteenth in the state.

Grant County has a lower-than-average number of births to teenage mothers and a consistently low dropout rate. The dropout rate increased in 1995 however, which may or may not reflect a longer-term trend. There was also an increase in the number of children receiving AFDC, contrary to the state trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Grant County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	128	*8.0%*	116	*7.4%*	127	*8.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	463	*32.7%*	437	*31.3%*	518	*32.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	0		0		1	*1.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.8%*	0		4	*5.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	5	*0.7%*	5	*0.6%*	14	*1.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		2	*33.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	2		14				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	9		14		16		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

Hennepin

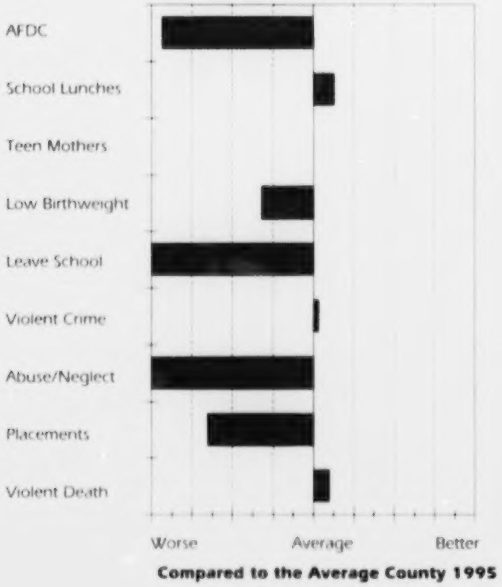
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	1,068,932
Estimated number of children, 1994	253,258
Estimated % children, 1994	23.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	246,930
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.6%
Projected population, 2000	1,110,300

Hennepin County, which contains the city of Minneapolis and is part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area, is the largest county in the state. Hennepin County is ethnically and racially diverse, including African-American, American Indian, Asian and Chicano/Latino children and families. In 1994, Hennepin County as a whole had a per capita personal income of $29,529, the highest in the state. The county's largest industries in 1994 were services; finance, insurance, and real estate; and durable goods manufacturing. Retail trade was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 9% since 1993.

The number of children receiving AFDC in Hennepin County decreased slightly between 1994 and 1995, although it is still above the average county. The county had a sharp decrease in the number of children in out-of-home placements between 1994 and 1995. The number of children dropping out of school has varied over the years, but is consistently higher than the average county. The number of children dying violently in Hennepin County also increased slightly.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Hennepin County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	34,349	*13.9%*	39,461	*15.6%*	38,176	*15.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	36,828	*27.0%*	42,535	*29.2%*	41,745	*28.2%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	557	*3.3%*	555	*3.5%*	568	*3.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	967	*5.8%*	1044	*6.7%*	986	*6.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	3364	*6.0%*	3607	*5.8%*	4749	*7.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	569	*24.2%*	769	*26.4%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	3048		3390				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	5813		6878		5457		18,492	
Children dying violently	35		37		43		211	

Houston

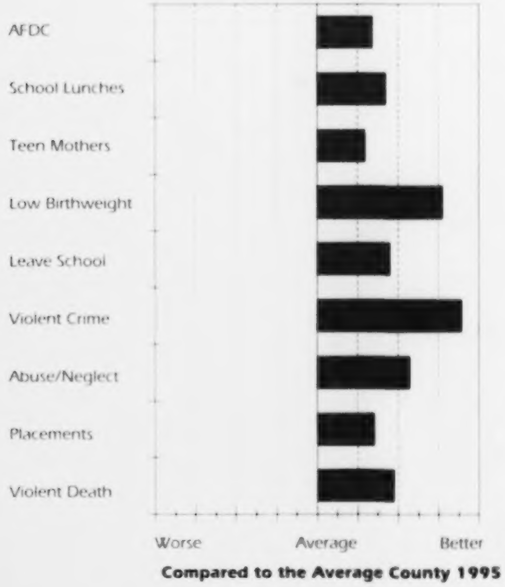
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	19,156
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,461
Estimated % children, 1994	28.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,325
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.6%
Projected population, 2000	18,560

Houston County is located in the southeastern corner of Minnesota on the Iowa and Wisconsin borders. It is considered part of the LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1994, Houston County had a per capita personal income of $18,056, which ranked forty-second in the state. Services, state and local government, and farming comprised the largest industries. The fastest growing was farming, which increased significantly from 1993 to 1994.

Houston County had a consistently low number of children arrested for violent crime. The number of children dropping out of school decreased between 1994 and 1995. Although better than the average county, both the percentages of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches and children born at low birth weight have increased.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Houston County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	227	*4.3%*	262	*4.8%*	230	*4.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	774	*20.2%*	813	*20.5%*	897	*22.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	7	*2.6%*	6	*2.6%*	6	*2.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*1.9%*	4	*1.7%*	7	*2.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	9	*0.6%*	25	*1.4%*	18	*1.0%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	14		13				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	24		30		30		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		211	

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Hubbard

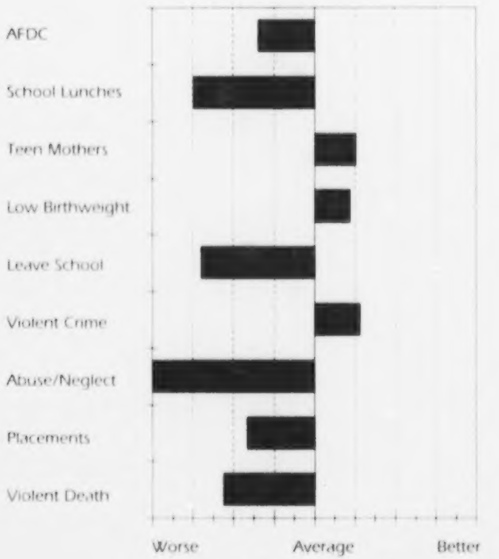
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	15,972
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,343
Estimated % children, 1994	27.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,179
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.9%
Projected population, 2000	15,440

Hubbard County is a mid-sized county located in the north central portion of the state. In 1994, Hubbard County had a per capita personal income of $15,405, the thirteenth lowest in the state. Its largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. Durable goods manufacturing grew significantly in 1994.

Hubbard County reduced the number of children born at low birth weight after an increase in 1994. There was a decrease in the percentage of children receiving AFDC. Despite the AFDC decrease, there was an increase in the number of children receiving free/reduced-priced school lunches. Another point of concern was a sharp increase in the number of children dropping out of school in 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Hubbard County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	499	*12.0%*	472	*10.9%*	437	*10.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1073	*39.4%*	1223	*42.8%*	1333	*46.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*3.2%*	6	*3.3%*	5	*2.6%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	7	*3.8%*	14	*7.8%*	9	*4.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	34	*2.8%*	27	*2.0%*	75	*5.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		3	*18.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	62		53				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	89		72		77		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		2		211	

Isanti

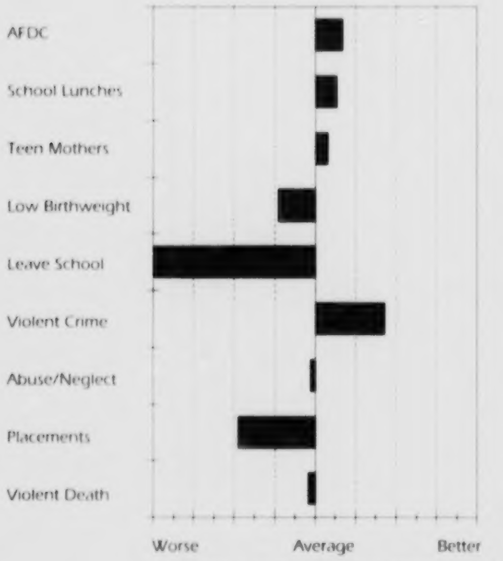
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	28,011
Estimated number of children, 1994	8,751
Estimated % children, 1994	31.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,324
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	5.1%
Projected population, 2000	27,470

Isanti County is a moderate-sized county located in east central Minnesota on the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Services, state and local government and durable goods manufacturing were the largest industries in 1994. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased by 23%. Isanti County's per capita personal income of $17,509 ranked fifty-first in the state.

The number of children receiving AFDC in Isanti County dropped steadily since 1992 and was better than the average county. The number of births to teen mothers decreased in 1995. Points of concern for Isanti County include a steady increase in the percentage of children born at low birth weight and a sharp increase in the number of children dropping out of school.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Isanti County



Compared to the Average County 1995

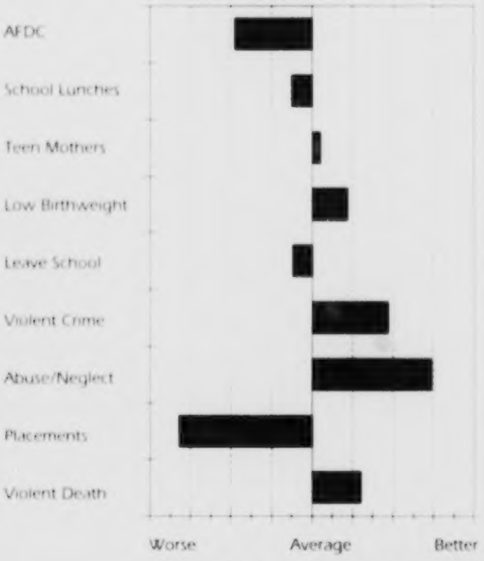
	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	663	*8.0%*	600	*6.9%*	496	*5.7%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1352	*25.4%*	1567	*27.4%*	1585	*28.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	9	*2.6%*	18	*4.8%*	11	*3.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	9	*2.6%*	22	*5.9%*	20	*6.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	101	*4.1%*	149	*5.4%*	183	*6.6%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*14.3%*	2	*14.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	33		52				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	121		171		164		18,492	
Children dying violently	4		2		2		211	

Itasca

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	42,947
Estimated number of children, 1994	12,108
Estimated % children, 1994	28.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,729
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.2%
Projected population, 2000	39,180

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Itasca County



Compared to the Average County 1995

12

Itasca County is located in the central section of northern Minnesota. Portions of Leech Lake Indian Reservation are located in the county. It is the nineteenth largest county in the state. Its per capita personal income of $15,536 ranks in the lower third of Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The county experienced a 9% growth in the retail trade industry in 1994.

Child abuse and neglect reports declined in 1994, although they fluctuated greatly from 1991 to 1994. Although higher than the average county, there was a steady decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC since 1993. There was a steady increase in the number of children in out-of-home placements from 1991 to 1995.

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1547	*13.2%*	1474	*12.2%*	1351	*11.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	3184	*37.7%*	2784	*32.1%*	2896	*33.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	22	*4.7%*	15	*3.5%*	15	*3.5%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	29	*6.1%*	19	*4.4%*	20	*4.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	152	*3.9%*	106	*2.5%*	134	*3.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*10.0%*	3	*13.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	24		17				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	206		286		294		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		211	

125

Jackson

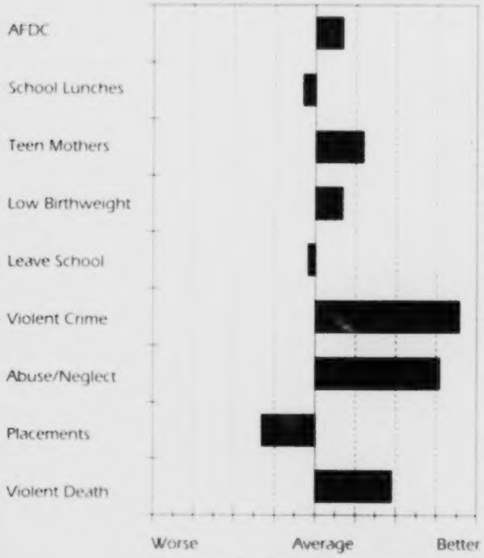
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	11,908
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,237
Estimated % children, 1994	27.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,201
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.1%
Projected population, 2000	10,370

Jackson County is a relatively small county located in southwestern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The largest increase in industry was in wholesale trade which increased by approximately 55% between 1993 and 1994. Jackson County's per capita personal income of $18,903 was ranked twenty-ninth highest in Minnesota.

Jackson County was better than the average county in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, with a decrease since 1992. Teen births were also consistently lower than the average county. Points of concern were an increase in the number of children dropping out of school between 1993 and 1995, and an significant increase in the number of out-of-home placements since 1991.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Jackson County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	255	*8.0%*	251	*7.8%*	184	*5.7%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	693	*31.4%*	741	*33.7%*	690	*32.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1	*0.8%*	2	*1.7%*	3	*2.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*3.9%*	6	*5.0%*	6	*4.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	7	*0.8%*	22	*2.3%*	27	*2.8%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*14.3%*	0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	12		4				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	29		43		53		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

Kanabec

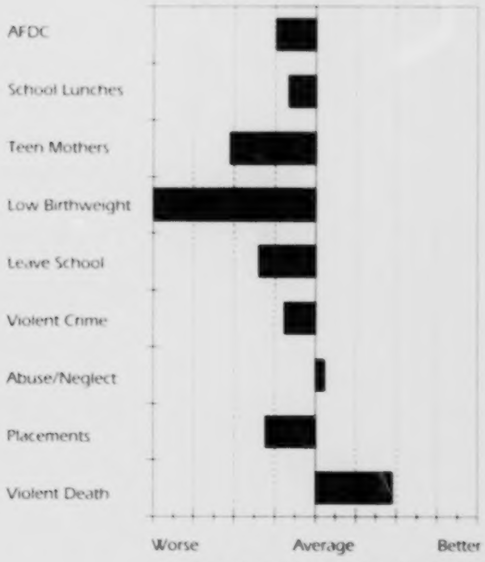
Kanabec County is located in east central Minnesota and ranks fifty-ninth in size among Minnesota counties. In 1994, Kanabec had a per capita personal income of $15,626, which ranks seventy-third in the state. The largest industries in the county were retail, state and local government, and construction. The fastest growing industry was non-durable goods manufacturing, which increased by almost 27%.

Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased in Kanabec County, but are still at the level of the average county. The percentage of low birthweight babies increased significantly in 1994 and 1995 after a drop in 1992 and 1993. The percent of births to teen mothers fluctuated over time, but is generally higher than the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	13,387
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,059
Estimated % children, 1994	30.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,930
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.3%
Projected population, 2000	13,340

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kanabec County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	383	*9.8%*	382	*9.4%*	374	*9.2%*	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	876	*34.2%*	1022	*37.0%*	967	*34.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*4.1%*	4	2.5%	9	*6.1%*	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	15	*10.2%*	15	9.3%	15	*10.1%*	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	42	3.8%	51	3.9%	54	*4.0%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*12.5%*	4	33.3%			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	9		22				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	24		43		65		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		0		0		211	

Kandiyohi

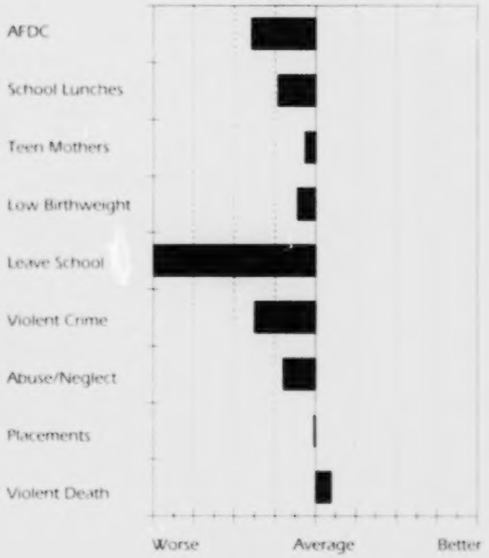
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	42,379
Estimated number of children, 1994	12,516
Estimated % children, 1994	29.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,922
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.05
Projected population, 2000	40,560

Kandiyohi County is located in west central Minnesota and is the twenty-third largest county in the state. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1994, the largest industries in the county were state and local government, services, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was farming. In 1994, Kandiyohi County had a per capita personal income of $18,372, among the upper half of Minnesota counties.

The percent of births to teens remained fairly steady and close to the state average. The number of children on AFDC, while below the average county, improved from 1994 to 1995. In Kandiyohi County, children were twice as likely to drop out of school as in the average county. The number of children born at low birth weight also increased in 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kandiyohi County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1270	*10.7%*	1437	*11.5%*	1310	*10.5%*	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2409	*32.8%*	2262	*30.1%*	2435	35.6%	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	22	*4.0%*	19	3.7%	21	*4.0%*	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	20	3.7%	17	3.3%	30	5.7%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	158	*5.1%*	202	*6.1%*	217	6.8%	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	17	*34.0%*	21	*38.9%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	77		87				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	148		159		140		18,492	
Children dying violently	6		2		2		211	

Kittson

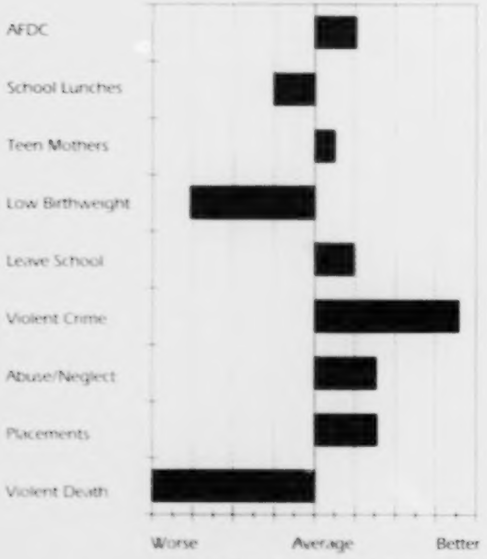
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	5,512
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,432
Estimated % children, 1994	26.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,506
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-4.9%
Projected population, 2000	5,180

Kittson County is in the northwest corner of Minnesota, bordering North Dakota and Canada. It is the sixth smallest county in Minnesota. The county's largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and farming. The service industry increased the most between 1993 and 1994. Kittson County's per capita personal income of $18,500 ranked thirty-seventh in the state.

Kittson County had a much lower-than-average school dropout rate, although it increased in the last two years. Kittson continued to have lower-than-average percents of children receiving AFDC and of births to teens. The number of low birthweight babies increased in 1995. This does not necessarily indicate a long-term trend, however.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kittson County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	62	*4.1%*	69	*4.8%*	71	*5.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	385	*33.5%*	397	*33.8%*	416	*36.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	0		1	*1.7%*	2	*3.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.9%*	3	*5.1%*	5	*7.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	2	*0.4%*	5	*0.9%*	10	*1.8%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	1		5				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	4		7		7		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		2		211	

Koochiching

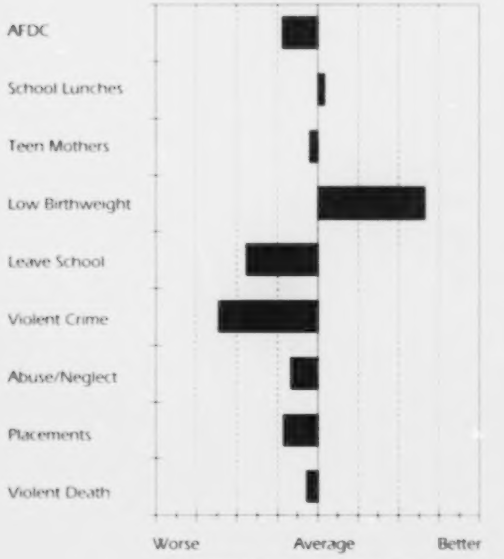
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	16,293
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,145
Estimated % children, 1994	25.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,191
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.1%
Projected population, 2000	15,000

Koochiching County is a mid-sized county located in northern Minnesota on the Canadian border. Most of the Nett Lake Indian Reservation lies within the county. In 1994, Koochiching had a per capita personal income of $15,643, the fifteenth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities.

The number of children born at low birth weight in Koochiching County was at a five-year low in 1995 and much better than the average county. The county also had some decline in the number of children receiving AFDC from 1994 to 1995. The percent of children dropping out of school continued to rise and was higher than the average county. Although arrests for violent crimes were up sharply in 1995, this is not necessarily a long-term trend for the county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Koochiching County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	383	*9.2%*	413	*10.0%*	373	*9.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	663	*26.0%*	670	*27.1%*	727	*29.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	7	*3.3%*	5	*2.9%*	5	*3.9%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	8	*3.8%*	10	*5.9%*	4	*3.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	33	*2.5%*	33	*2.5%*	57	*4.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*6.7%*	6	*46.2%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	25		28				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	63		56		60		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		2		1		211	

Lac qui Parle

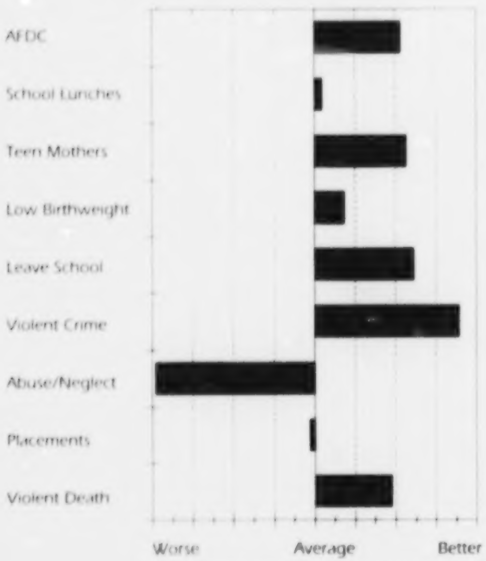
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	8,535
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,242
Estimated % children, 1994	26.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,326
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-3.6%
Projected population, 2000	7,730

Lac Qui Parle County is located in southwestern Minnesota on the South Dakota border next to the Minnesota River. It is the thirteenth smallest county in the state. Its 1994 per capita personal income of $18,889 ranked thirtieth in the state. The county's largest industries in 1994 were farming, state and local government, and services. Farming income showed the largest increase between 1993 and 1994.

Children in Lac Qui Parle County did well on most indicators of child well-being. The number of children born at low birth weight increased somewhat from 1991 to 1994, although the numbers were still quite small. A sharp increase in 1995 in the number of child abuse and neglect reports may not reflect a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lac qui Parle County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	60	*2.6%*	72	*3.2%*	59	*2.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	599	*32.9%*	610	*33.6%*	548	*29.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*2.0%*	1	*1.2%*	1	*1.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.0%*	6	*7.2%*	4	*4.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	1	*0.1%*	4	*0.4%*	4	*0.4%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	4		26				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	15		27		26		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		2		0		211	

Lake

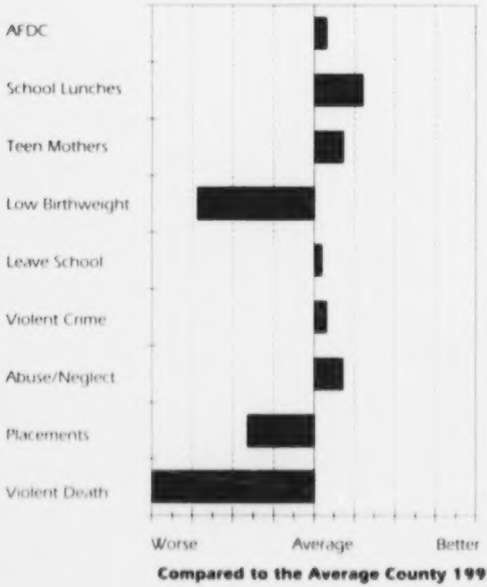
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	10,566
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,546
Estimated % children, 1994	24.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,542
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.2%
Projected population, 2000	9,640

Lake County is located in northeastern Minnesota on the North Shore of Lake Superior. It is the eighteenth smallest county in Minnesota. It had a per capita personal income of $16,740. The largest industries in 1994 were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased 10% between 1993 and 1994.

On most indicators, children in Lake County rank near to the average county's children. The number of children receiving AFDC has decreased steadily since 1991. An increase in the number of children born at low birth weight in 1995 does not necessarily indicate a long-term change in this indicator.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lake County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	215	*8.5%*	197	*7.8%*	165	*6.5%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	586	*26.8%*	625	*28.2%*	554	*24.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	0		7	*7.6%*	3	*2.9%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*4.2%*	2	*2.2%*	8	*7.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	11	*1.1%*	26	*2.5%*	25	*2.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	*25.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	12		12				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	37		31		45		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		2		211	

Lake of the Woods

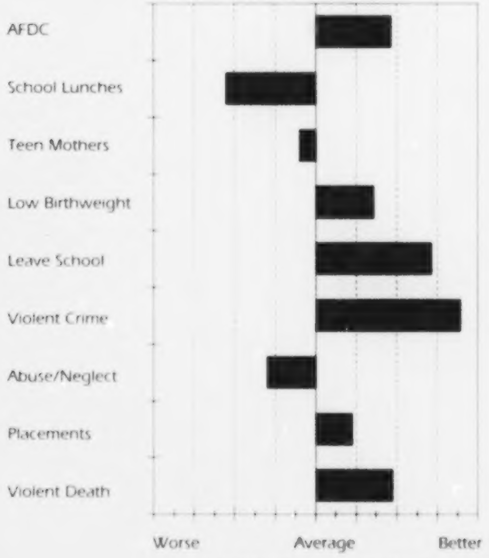
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	4,392
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,194
Estimated % children, 1994	27.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,177
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	4,310

Lake of the Woods County is located in northern Minnesota on the Canadian border. It is the third smallest county in Minnesota. Portions of the Red Lake Indian Reservation are located in the county. In 1994, Lake of the Woods County had a per capita personal income of $16,477, which ranked sixty-third in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry from 1993 to 1994 was non-durable goods manufacturing, which increased by over 12 percent.

Lake of the Woods County improved on its already low dropout rate by having no students drop out in 1995. The percentage of children receiving AFDC continued to be low, although the number of children receiving free/reduced price school lunch was above that of the average county. A modest increase in 1995 in reports of child abuse and neglect does not necessarily indicate a long-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lake of the Woods County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	59	*5.0%*	57	*4.8%*	38	*3.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	316	*41.4%*	341	*41.8%*	350	*42.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1	*1.8%*	2	*4.1%*	2	*4.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	4	*7.0%*	4	*8.2%*	2	*4.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	7	*2.3%*	6	*1.6%*	0		15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	4		9				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	13		6		9		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

LeSueur

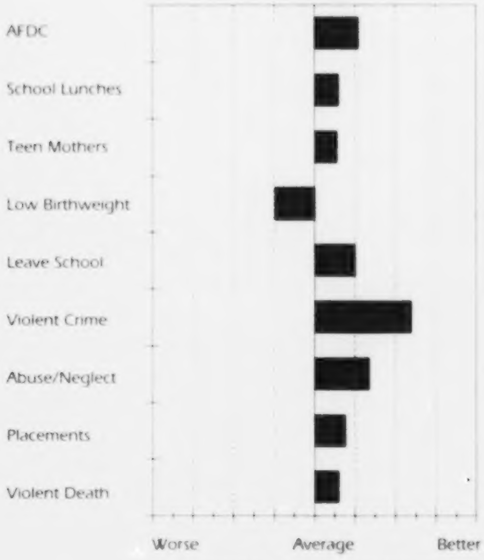
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	24,273
Estimated number of children, 1994	7,164
Estimated % children, 1994	29.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,971
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.8%
Projected population, 2000	23,420

Le Sueur County in south central Minnesota ranks thirty-eighth in population among Minnesota counties. Le Sueur County's 1994 per capita personal income of $18,454 ranks thirty-ninth in the state. The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was farming which increased substantially from 1993 to 1994.

Children in Le Sueur County rank quite close to the average county for many indicators of child well-being. After a decrease in low birthweight births in 1992 and 1993, rates have increased to above average for 1994 and 1995. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect dropped to a four-year low in 1994, but may not reflect a longer term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in LeSueur County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	346	*5.0%*	347	*4.9%*	345	*4.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1029	*23.0%*	1457	*25.8%*	1493	*27.7%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	9	*2.8%*	6	*1.8%*	10	*3.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	20	*6.2%*	20	*6.0%*	20	*6.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	25	*1.3%*	50	*2.0%*	44	*1.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*20.0%*	1	*9.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	44		27				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	41		71		58		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		1		1		211	

Lincoln

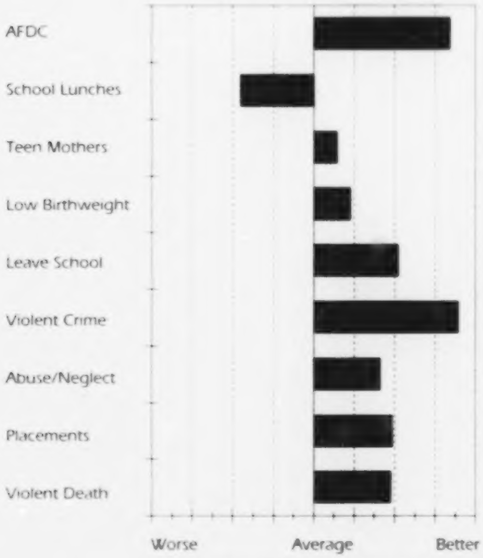
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	6,831
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,777
Estimated % children, 1994	26.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,789
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.7%
Projected population, 2000	6,080

Lincoln County, the ninth smallest county in the state, is located in southwestern Minnesota on the South Dakota border. Its 1994 per capita personal income of $17,550 ranked fiftieth in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were farming, services, and transportation and public utilities. Farming earnings increased significantly from 1993 to 1994.

Children in Lincoln County fared better than children in the average county in 1995 on most indicators of child well-being. The number of children abused and neglected decreased between 1993 and 1994. A higher-than-average rate of students receiving free/reduced-price school lunches indicates the number of low-income students in the county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lincoln County



Compared to the Average County 1995

14

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North)	635	*5.7%*	608	*5.4%*	523	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	428	*38.4%*	454	*40.3%*	449	*40.2%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*3.0%*	1	*1.5%*	2	*3.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.5%*	3	*4.5%*	3	*4.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	5	*0.8%*	4	*0.6%*	5	*0.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	8		6				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	8		7		6		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

145

Lyon

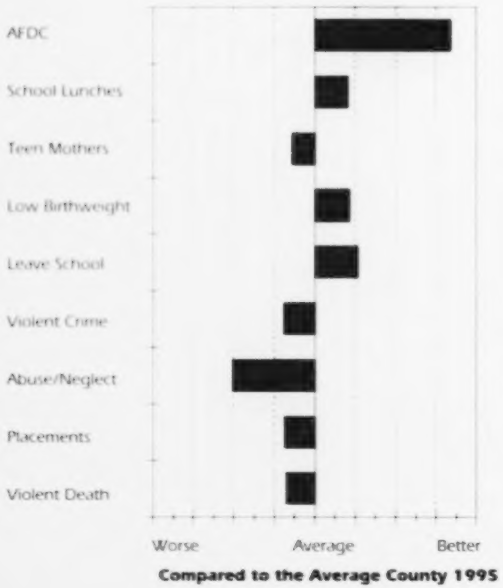
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	25,248
Estimated number of children, 1994	6,936
Estimated % children, 1994	27.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,835
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	24,680

Lyon County is a mid-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota. In 1994, Lyon County had a per capita personal income of $20,013, which was the fourteenth largest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Farming income increased significantly between 1993 and 1994.

There was an increase in 1995 in the number of children dropping out of school, but Lyon County was still below the average county. There was a drop in the percent of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch. Areas of concern for Lyon County are an increase in the number of children born to teenage mothers and an increase in the number of children abused and neglected.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lyon County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North)	635	*5.7%*	608	*5.4%*	523	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1513	*28.0%*	1630	*28.6%*	1515	*26.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	8	*2.3%*	10	*2.7%*	15	*4.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	4	*1.1%*	15	*4.1%*	16	*4.7%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	38	*1.6%*	35	*1.4%*	44	*1.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	4	*25.0%*	8	*33.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	41		61				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	105		71		98		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		2		211	

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McLeod

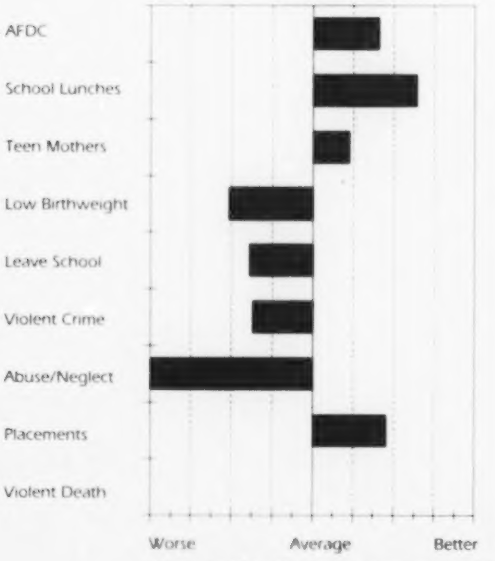
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	33,478
Estimated number of children, 1994	9,734
Estimated % children, 1994	29.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,489
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.6%
Projected population, 2000	21,480

McLeod County is located in the south central portion of the state and is the twenty-fifth largest county. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. The county's largest industries in 1994 were durable goods manufacturing, non-durable goods manufacturing and state and local government. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 13% from 1993 to 1994. McLeod County's per capita personal income was $19,786, the seventeenth largest in the state.

McLeod County reduced the number of children in out-of-home placements. Although there was an increase between 1994 and 1995 in the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches, McLeod County was lower than the average county. Areas for concern include an increase in the percentage of students dropping out of school and a steady increase in the number of children born at a low birth weight.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in McLeod County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	335	*5.0%*	361	*4.9%*	352	*3.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	857	*17.3%*	948	*17.2%*	974	*17.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	7	*1.5%*	15	*3.4%*	13	*2.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	13	*2.8%*	22	*4.9%*	34	*7.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	77	*2.8%*	119	*3.9%*	126	*4.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	11	*37.9%*	19	*38.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	113		142				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	55		48		37		18,492	
Children dying violently	4		2		2		211	

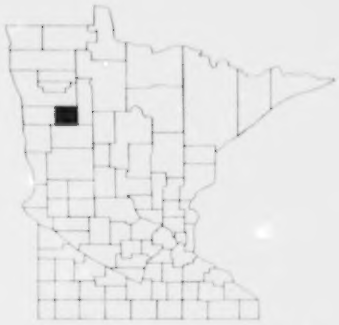
Mahnomen

Demographics

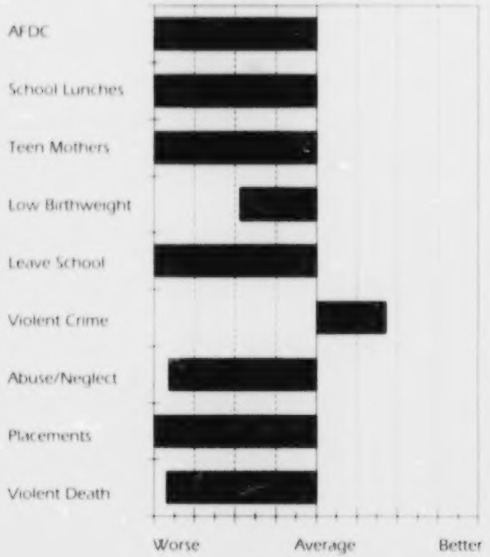
Estimated population, 1994	5,147
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,614
Estimated % children, 1994	31.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,587
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.7%
Projected population, 2000	33,780

Mahnomen County is located in northwestern Minnesota and is the fifth smallest county in the state. Portions of the White Earth Indian Reservation are located in the county. The county's 1994 personal per capita income was $13,312, the lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail. The services industry increased 15% from 1993 to 1994.

Mahnomen County has a consistently low number of children arrested for violent crime and is better than the average county in this indicator. The number of children dropping out of school in Mahnomen County has increased steadily since 1991. Another point of concern is the increase of children born to teen mothers from 6.6% in 1994 to 9.7% in 1995.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mahnomen County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	295	*18.6%*	275	*17.1%*	276	*17.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1109	*66.6%*	1177	*67.7%*	1170	*68.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*3.2%*	5	*6.6%*	6	*8.3%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*4.8%*	5	*6.6%*	5	*6.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	6	*0.8%*	59	*7.6%*	72	*9.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	*14.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	29		18				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	59		73		80		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		2		1		211	

Marshall

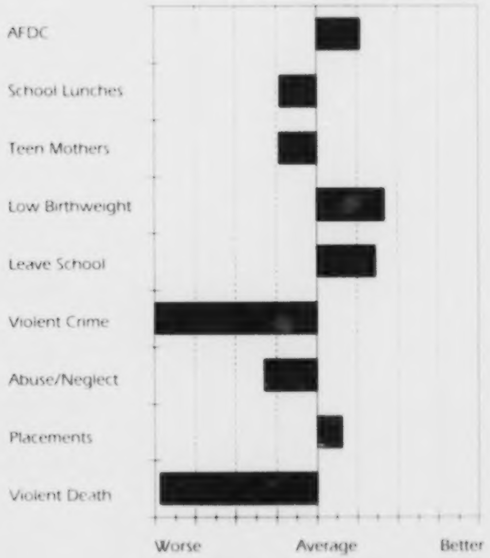
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	10,763
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,120
Estimated % children, 1994	29.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,185
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-2.1%
Projected population, 2000	4,950

Marshall County is a moderately small county located along the North Dakota border in the northwest corner of the state. During the summer months, the population of Marshall County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Marshall County's per capita personal income of $15,147 is the tenth lowest in the state. The largest industries in the county were state and local government, services, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by over 21%.

The number of children in Marshall County receiving AFDC and free or reduced-priced school lunch decreased in 1995. The rate of low birth weight in Marshall County is lower than the average county but increased between 1994 and 1995. There was a big jump in the number of children arrested for violent crime in 1994. The rate of teen births is also increasing in Marshall County.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Marshall County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	146	*4.6%*	162	*5.2%*	150	*4.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	987	*40.8%*	995	*42.8%*	716	*35.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*1.5%*	4	*3.6%*	6	*4.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	9	*6.8%*	1	*0.9%*	5	*4.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	6	*0.5%*	14	*1.2%*	13	*1.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		4	*80.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	12		24				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	16		23		27		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		2		211	

Martin

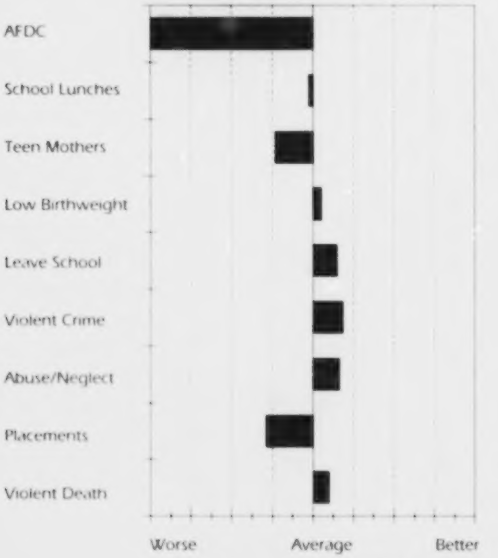
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	22,680
Estimated number of children, 1994	6,042
Estimated % children, 1994	26.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,173
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-2.1%
Projected population, 2000	9,910

Martin County is a moderate-sized county located in south central Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in Martin County were farming, services, and durable goods manufacturing. In 1994, Martin County had a per capita personal income of $20,016, ranking thirteenth among Minnesota counties. The fastest growing industry between 1993 and 1994 was farming.

Martin County is close to the average county on nearly all indicators. The number of children receiving AFDC in Martin County has dropped between 1994 and 1995. The county is also lower than average for this indicator. There was a significant jump in the number of children dropping out of school. The number of children in out-of-home placements has also increased.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Martin County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC (Martin/Faribault)	888	*8.3%*	856	*8.1%*	752	*7.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1387	*31.0%*	1329	*30.9%*	1322	*31.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	12	*4.1%*	7	*2.7%*	11	*4.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	13	*4.4%*	15	*5.7%*	12	*5.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	24	*1.2%*	25	*1.1%*	47	*2.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		10	*21.7%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	28		29				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	59		83		95		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		211	

Meeker

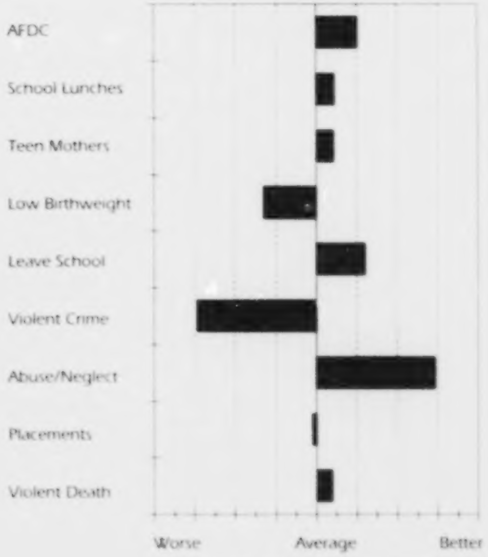
Meeker County is a moderate-sized county in central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1994 were construction, state and local government, and services. Wholesale trade was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 18%. The 1994 per capita personal income in Meeker County was $17,082, fifty-seventh in the state.

The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect decreased in Meeker County and is lower than the average county. The number of children receiving free or reduced-priced school lunches also dropped. Points of concern for Meeker County are increases in the number of teen mothers, low birth weight and children dropping out of school.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	21,466
Estimated number of children, 1994	6,323
Estimated % children, 1994	29.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,279
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.7%
Projected population, 2000	20,840

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Meeker County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	378	*6.0%*	353	*5.6%*	312	*4.9%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1578	*27.1%*	1780	*29.6%*	1774	*28.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*2.2%*	6	*2.5%*	8	*3.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	7	*2.6%*	11	*4.5%*	16	*6.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	31	*1.2%*	37	*1.3%*	47	*1.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		2	*50.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	11		9				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	54		64		73		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		0				211	

Mille Lacs

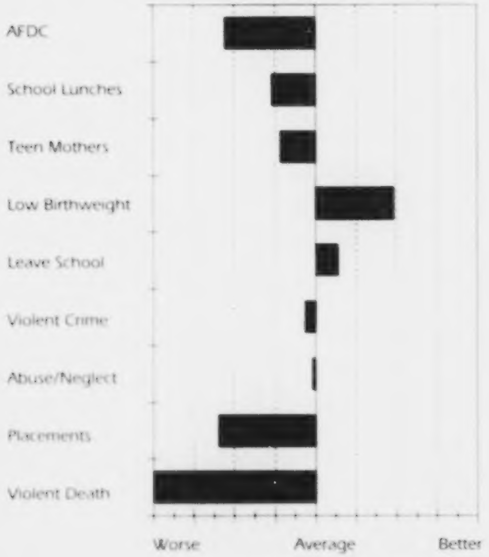
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	19,784
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,758
Estimated % children, 1994	29.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,584
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.1%
Projected population, 2000	19,030

Mille Lacs County is located in east central Minnesota, and includes the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation. It ranks forty-seventh in population among Minnesota counties. Its per capita income of $15,732 was eighth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The transportation and public utilities sector of the economy increased by almost 14% from 1993 to 1994.

Mille Lacs County has seen a drop in the number of children born with low birth weight. The county is also lower than the average county on this indicator. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect dropped. Points of concern for Mille Lacs County are a steady increase in children dropping out of school since 1991 and an increase in the number of children in out-of-home placements.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mille Lacs County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	580	*10.4%*	650	*11.3%*	684	11.9%	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2009	*34.6%*	2254	*36.7%*	2253	36.3%	223,893	26.8%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	14	*5.6%*	11	*4.4%*	10	4.7%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	11	*4.4%*	13	*5.2%*	8	3.8%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	42	*1.6%*	53	*1.8%*	63	2.2%	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	*26.3%*	5	*29.4%*			2,225*	31.0%
Children abused and neglected	84		34				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	98		107		119		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		5		211	

Morrison

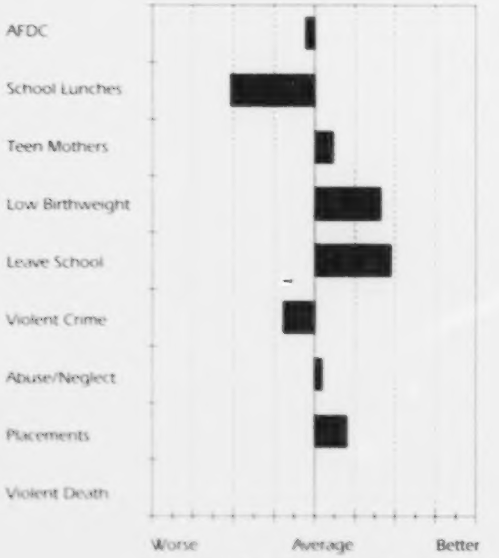
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	30,180
Estimated number of children, 1994	9,440
Estimated % children, 1994	31.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,333
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.1%
Projected population, 2000	29,720

Morrison County is a mid-sized county located in central Minnesota. Its 1993 per capita personal income was $14,818, the eighth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was state and local government, which increased by 10% between 1993 and 1994.

Morrison County had a higher-than-average level of children on AFDC and receiving free/reduced-price school lunches. The county also had a very low school dropout rate. Over time, the number of births to teens and children born at low birth weight generally increased, although the county is still doing better than average.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Morrison County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	691	*7.4%*	685	*7.3%*	716	*7.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	3063	*44.5%*	2797	*41.5%*	2807	*41.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	8	*1.9%*	19	*4.9%*	12	*3.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	13	*3.1%*	14	*3.6%*	15	*4.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	36	*1.2%*	18	*0.6%*	28	*0.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*9.1%*	4	*33.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	45		52				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	61		51		75		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		1		2		211	

Mower

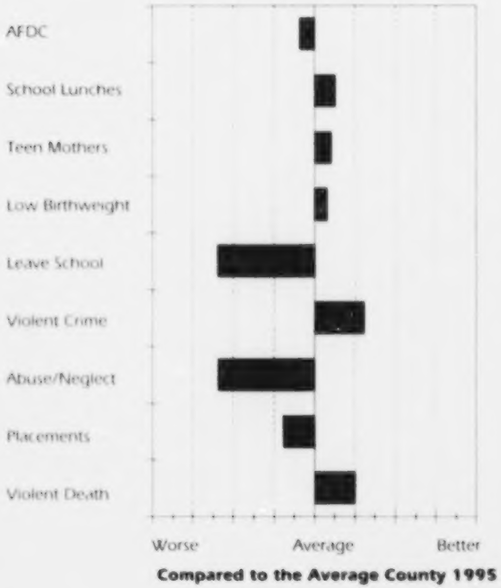
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	37,800
Estimated number of children, 1994	9,687
Estimated % children, 1994	25.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,685
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.0%
Projected population, 2000	36,570

Mower County is located in southeastern Minnesota on the Iowa border. It is the twenty-second largest county in the state. Its 1994 per capita personal income of $20,863 was the eighth largest in Minnesota. In Mower County, the largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Farming was the fastest growing sector between 1993 and 1994.

Mower County had a decline in the number of children receiving AFDC, although its rate was still above the average county. The percentage of students dropping out of school increased in 1994, and 1995 rates, while lower, were still an increase since 1991. A jump in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect in 1995 may or may not reflect a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mower County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	895	*9.3%*	853	*8.8%*	764	*7.9%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1677	*26.5%*	1912	*28.2%*	1946	*28.2%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	26	*5.0%*	26	*5.7%*	14	*3.3%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	26	*5.0%*	31	*6.8%*	22	*5.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	95	*3.5%*	154	*5.2%*	148	*4.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	*7.9%*	7	*17.9%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	54		90				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	96		112		137		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		1		211	

Murray

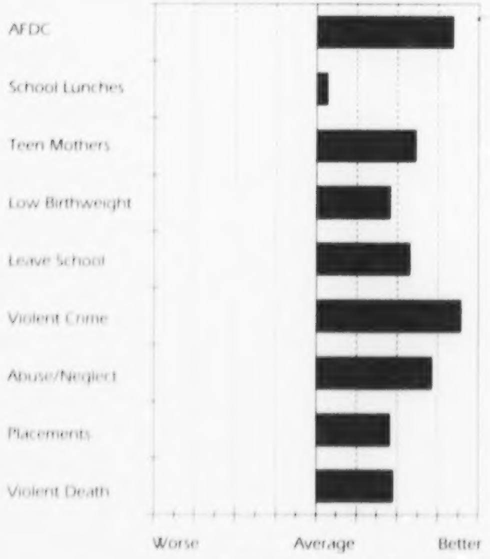
Murray County is located in the southwestern corner of Minnesota. It is the fourteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, services, and state and local government. The non-durable goods manufacturing industry increased by 11% between 1993 and 1994. Murray County had a per capita personal income of $20,172, which ranked twelfth in the state.

Children in Murray County seemed to be faring above average on all of the indicators of child well-being. Most of these indicators also held quite steady from 1991 to 1995.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	9,603
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,589
Estimated % children, 1994	27.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,633
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.7%
Projected population, 2000	8,600

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Murray County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North)	635	*5.7%*	608	*5.4%*	523	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	415	*28.1%*	517	*31.6%*	481	*29.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1	*0.8%*	1	*1.1%*	1	*1.0%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*2.3%*	4	*4.3%*	4	*3.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	2	*0.3%*	2	*0.3%*	4	*0.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	8		4				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	16		10		10		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

Nicollet

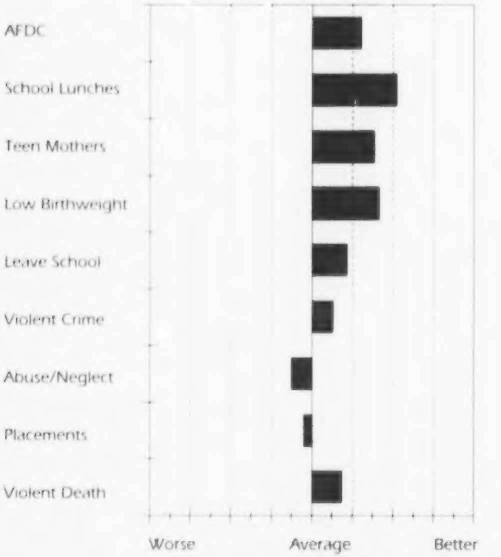
Nicollet County, located along the Minnesota River in south central Minnesota, is the thirty-third largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The fastest growing industry was farming, which increased significantly from 1993 to 1994. Nicollet County's per capita income of $18,936 ranked twenty-eighth in the state.

Children in Nicollet County were near or above the average county for most indicators of child well-being. A sharp drop in child abuse reports in 1994 is important to note, as was a decrease in the number of out-of-home placements from 1992 to 1995.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	29,700
Estimated number of children, 1994	7,819
Estimated % children, 1994	26.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,517
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	4.0%
Projected population, 2000	28,890

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Nicollet County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	361	*4.8%*	372	*4.8%*	359	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	582	*23.1%*	591	*21.1%*	536	*20.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*1.6%*	7	*2.1%*	7	*2.0%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	18	*4.8%*	25	*7.6%*	14	*4.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	20	*1.8%*	15	*1.2%*	24	*1.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	4	*26.7%*	4	*23.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	249		51				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	79		107		93		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		211	

16

16

Nobles

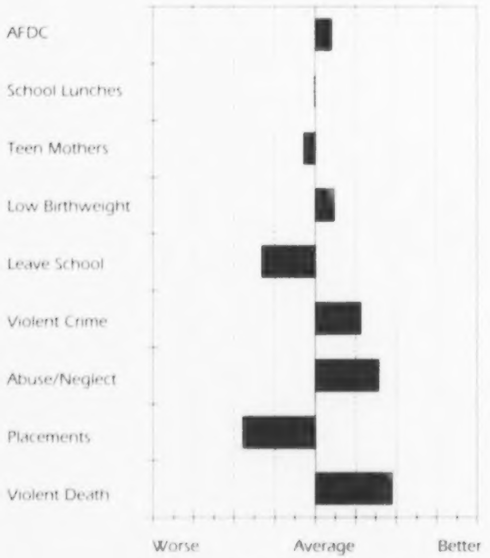
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	20,681
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,522
Estimated % children, 1994	26.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,442
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	19,060

Nobles County is a mid-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1994 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and farming. Farming was the fastest growing sector between 1993 and 1994. Nobles County's per capita personal income in 1994 was $19,226, which ranked the county twenty-fourth in the state on this measure.

Nobles County children are near average for several indicators of child well-being. After two years of higher arrest rates for violent crimes, this number dropped in 1994. Nobles County continued to have a higher-than-average dropout rate. The number of child abuse and neglect reports dropped substantially in 1994, although the number of children in out-of-home placement did not. Out-of-home placements are higher than average in Nobles County.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Nobles County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	310	*5.7%*	355	*6.4%*	344	*6.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1039	*28.7%*	1302	*32.5%*	1252	*30.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	3	*1.0%*	8	*2.8%*	13	*4.0%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	13	*4.5%*	16	*5.6%*	16	*5.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	56	*3.2%*	77	*4.1%*	75	*3.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		3	*18.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	49		19				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	67		93		101		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

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Norman

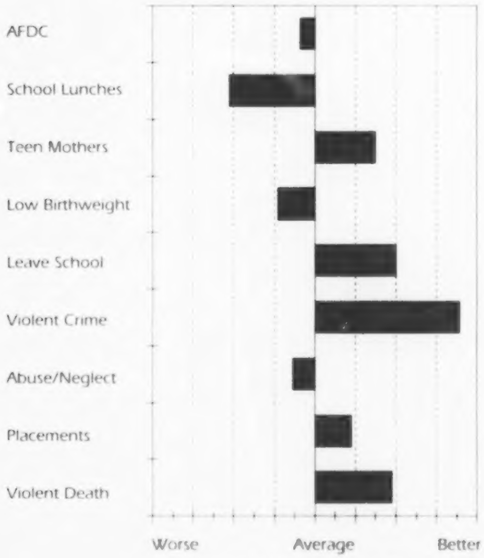
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	7,828
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,121
Estimated % children, 1994	27.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,157
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.7%
Projected population, 2000	7,060

Norman County is located in northwestern Minnesota along the Red River and North Dakota border. During the summer months, the population of Norman County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Norman is the eleventh smallest county in Minnesota with the seventeenth lowest per capita personal income at $15,752. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and farming. Transportation and public utilities increased the fastest, growing by almost 22%.

Norman County had a very low school dropout rate from 1991 through 1995. The percent of children receiving AFDC declined from 1994 to 1995, although it was still higher than the average county. The county had a slight increase over time in children born at low birth weight and was somewhat below the average county for this indicator.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Norman County



Compared to the Average County 1995

17

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	134	*6.2%*	187	*8.8%*	167	*7.9%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	651	*39.5%*	614	*38.6%*	630	*41.7%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*2.3%*	5	*5.2%*	2	*2.0%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*5.7%*	8	*8.3%*	6	*6.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	5	*0.7%*	6	*0.8%*	6	*0.8%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	10		14				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	17		17		16		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

17

Olmsted

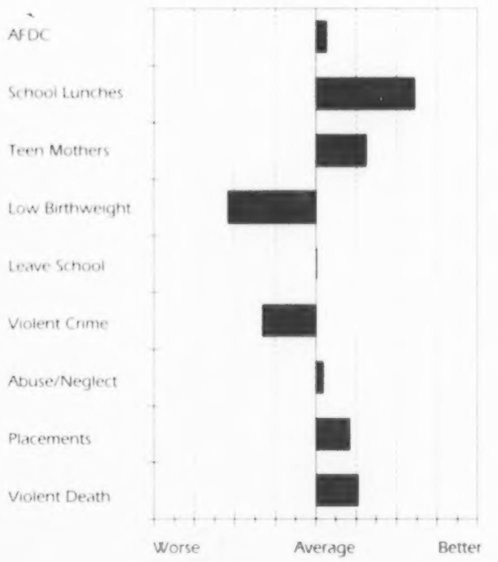
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	114,241
Estimated number of children, 1994	31,679
Estimated % children, 1994	27.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	30,642
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.4%
Projected population, 2000	117,160

Olmsted County in southeastern Minnesota is the eighth largest county in the state. Olmsted County's population includes a significant number of Southeast Asian and Somalian children. Olmsted County's 1994 per capita income of $23,112 ranked fifth in the state. The largest industries in the county were services, durable goods manufacturing, and retail. Earnings from the service sector increased by over 7% from 1993 to 1994.

The rate of teen births in Olmsted County was well below the state average. The number of children in out-of-home placements also declined in 1995. The number of children receiving AFDC increased slightly from 1993 to 1995, contrary to the state trend. Olmsted County had an increase in children born at low birth weight, pushing it significantly below the average county for this indicator. The county also had a steady increase in the number of juveniles arrested for violent crimes.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Olmsted County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1725	*5.6%*	2004	*6.3%*	2069	*6.5%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	3381	*16.6%*	3828	*18.8%*	3776	*18.2%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	29	*1.6%*	36	*2.1%*	41	*2.3%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	80	*4.3%*	100	*5.8%*	126	*7.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	208	*2.6%*	167	*1.9%*	236	*2.6%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	16	*25.4%*	42	*37.5%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	158		174				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	227		254		246		18,492	
Children dying violently	6		1		3		211	

Otter Tail

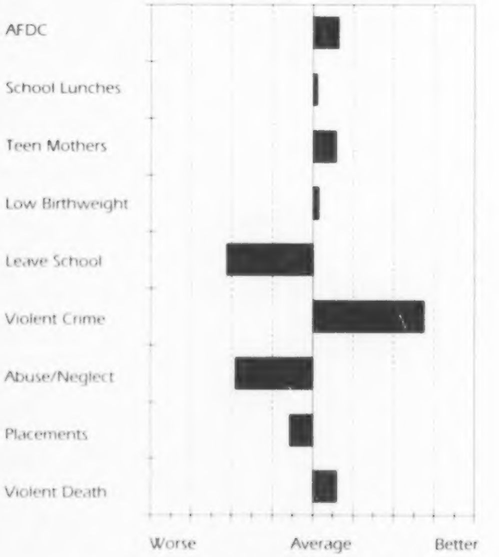
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	52,867
Estimated number of children, 1994	13,942
Estimated % children, 1994	26.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	13,660
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.1%
Projected population, 2000	49,270

Otter Tail County, located in the west central region of Minnesota, is the thirteenth largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Durable goods manufacturing increased 27% between 1993 and 1994. Otter Tail County's 1994 per capita income of $17,126 ranked fifty-sixth among Minnesota counties.

In 1995, a lower-than-average number of children were arrested for violent crime in Otter Tail County, which did much better than the average county on this indicator. The percent of children dropping out of school increased steadily from 1992 to 1995. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, although higher than the average county, have not shown a clear trend over time.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Otter Tail County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	885	*6.5%*	931	*6.7%*	806	*5.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2828	*30.7%*	2772	*30.4%*	2923	*30.2%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	11	*1.7%*	10	*1.8%*	17	*3.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	33	*5.2%*	19	*3.4%*	29	*5.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	113	*2.8%*	182	*3.8%*	225	*4.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	8	*17.4%*	3	*6.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	137		120				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	205		208		186		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		4		2		211	

Pennington

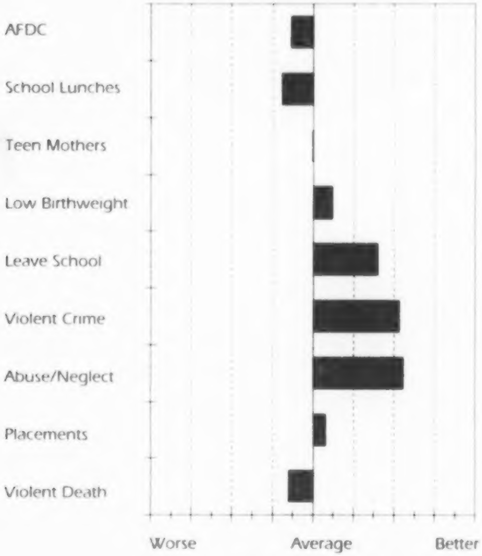
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	13,524
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,639
Estimated % children, 1994	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,650
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.3%
Projected population, 2000	13,050

Pennington County is a moderate-sized county located in northwestern Minnesota. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing, which increased 41%. Its per capita personal income of $16,944 ranked sixtieth in the State.

Pennington County did better than the average county with very few children dropping out of school. The percent of children receiving AFDC dropped from 1993 to 1995, although the rate is still a little higher than the average county. The number of children in out-of-home placements increased over the last five years.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pennington County



Compared to the Average County 1995

17

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	409	*11.2%*	374	*10.3%*	301	*8.3%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	922	*37.4%*	915	*38.0%*	854	*34.8%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	5	*3.4%*	2	*1.2%*	6	*3.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	6	*4.0%*	5	*3.1%*	8	*5.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	7	*0.5%*	14	*1.0%*	16	*1.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*12.5%*	2	*11.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	8		9				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	19		24		36		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		1		211	

17

Pine

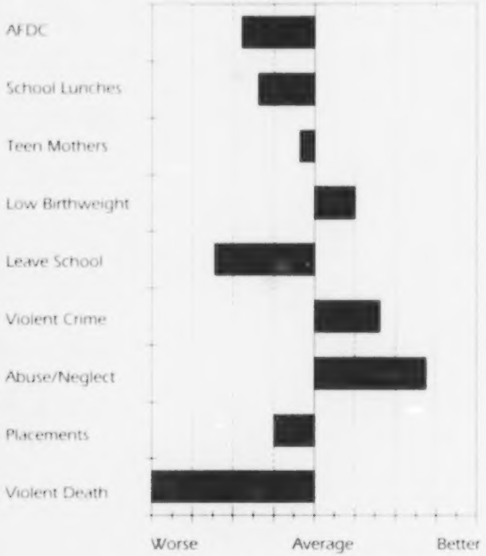
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	23,251
Estimated number of children, 1994	6,481
Estimated % children, 1994	27.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,160
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	5.2%
Projected population, 2000	22,130

Pine County is a moderate-sized county located in east central Minnesota on the Wisconsin border. The largest industries in 1994 were services, retail, and state and local government, which increased almost 15%. The county's per capita personal income of $14,805 was the seventh lowest in the state.

In Pine County, rates of arrests for violent crime and the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect are both better than in the average county. A higher-than-average percentage of Pine County children received AFDC and that number increased from 1994 to 1995, counter to the state trend. The number of dropouts also increased over the last two years and was higher than the average county. An increase in violent deaths in 1995 does not necessarily reflect a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pine County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	728	*11.8%*	674	*10.4%*	707	*10.9%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1732	*38.7%*	1892	*41.4%*	1774	*37.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	17	*6.2%*	13	*4.8%*	10	*4.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	14	*5.1%*	18	*6.6%*	11	*4.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	61	*2.8%*	104	*4.5%*	116	*4.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*11.1%*	3	*15.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	11		11				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	91		94		98		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		5		211	

Pipestone

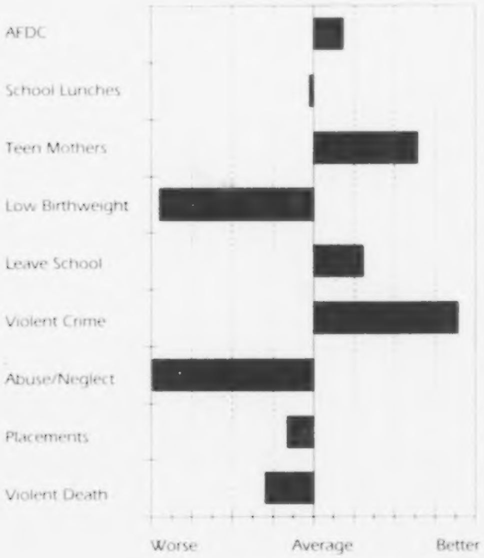
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	10,448
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,922
Estimated % children, 1994	28.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,940
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.6%
Projected population, 2000	9,730

Pipestone County is located in the southwestern corner of the state along the South Dakota border. It's the seventeenth smallest county in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, state and local government, and services. Farming increased significantly from 1993 to 1994. Pipestone County had a per capita personal income of $17,285, ranking fifty-second in the state.

Pipestone County had a very low percentage of births to teen mothers in the last two years. The county's dropout rate was also extremely low in 1994 and 1995. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect were higher than the state average, but decreased in the county from 1992 to 1994. The percentage of babies born at low birth weight increased dramatically in 1995, but this may not reflect a longer-term trend in the county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pipestone County



Compared to the Average County 1995

13

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	193	*6.6%*	182	*6.2%*	162	*5.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	819	*30.8%*	833	*31.8%*	817	*31.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	*2.8%*	1	*0.9%*	1	*0.9%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	6	*4.1%*	3	*2.8%*	10	*8.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	2	*0.2%*	11	*1.3%*	13	*1.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	24		34				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	54		53		40		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		211	

18

Polk

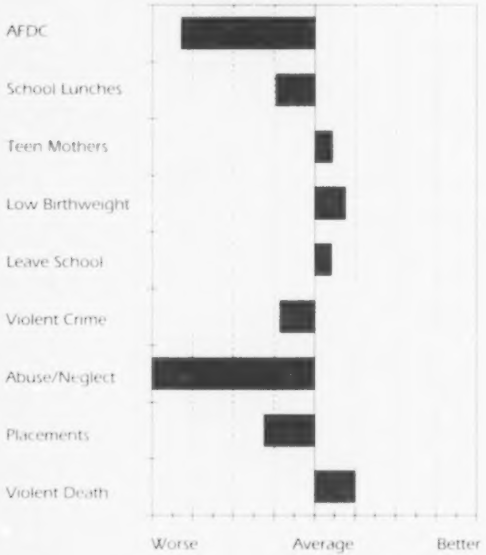
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	34,158
Estimated number of children, 1994	9,861
Estimated % children, 1994	28.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,711
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	31,340

Polk County is in northwest Minnesota on the North Dakota border and the Red River. During the summer months, the county's population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Its per capita income of $16,921 ranked sixty-first among Minnesota counties. The largest industries in the county were services, state and local government, and retail, and the fastest growing between 1993 and 1994 was farming.

The number of children receiving AFDC in Polk County, while higher than the average county, decreased significantly from 1993 to 1995. Many other indicators are near to the average county. Arrests for violent crime increased from 1991 to 1994. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect vary over time, but were generally higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Polk County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1722	*17.8%*	1622	*16.5%*	1392	*14.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2329	*35.5%*	2291	*34.1%*	2390	*35.7%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	12	*2.5%*	19	*4.8%*	13	*3.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	23	*4.8%*	12	*3.0%*	19	*4.7%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	78	*2.7%*	59	*1.9%*	75	*2.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*5.4%*	17	*34.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	147		138				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	159		148		158		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		1		211	

Pope

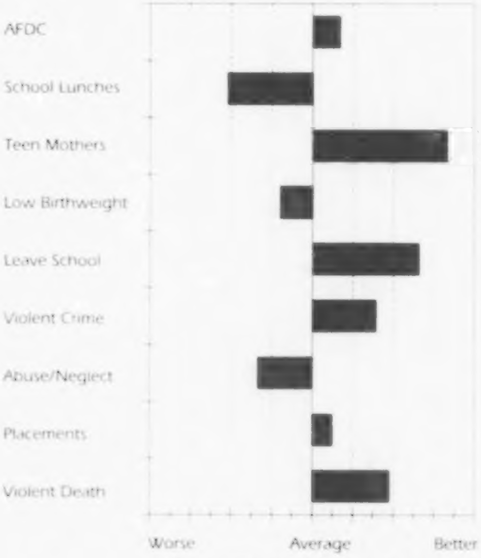
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	10,961
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,968
Estimated % children, 1994	27.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,951
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.6%
Projected population, 2000	10,130

Pope County is a moderately small county in west central Minnesota. It ranks sixty-eight among Minnesota counties with $16,283 per capita personal income. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was wholesale trade, which increased almost 72%.

Pope County had no births to teens in 1995 and a consistently low rate of school dropouts over time. While Pope County had a relatively low rate of AFDC use by children, it had a higher-than-average rate of free/reduced-price school lunch participation. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect were higher than the average county, but decreased somewhat between 1992 and 1994.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pope County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	170	*5.8%*	214	*7.2%*	168	*5.7%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	593	*32.7%*	824	*45.8%*	800	*41.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*1.5%*	3	*2.6%*	0		2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	6	*4.6%*	3	*2.6%*	5	*6.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	5	*0.7%*	5	*0.6%*	2	*0.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	7	*43.8%*	2	*15.4%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	25		23				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	20		33		27		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		211	

Ramsey

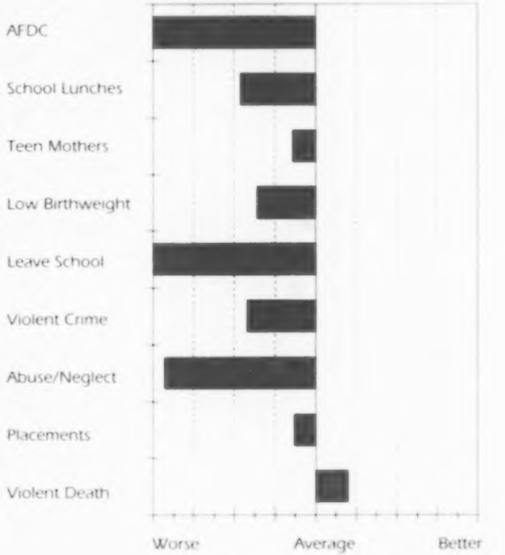
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	501,175
Estimated number of children, 1994	129,229
Estimated % children, 1994	25.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	126,924
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.8%
Projected population, 2000	512,240

Ramsey County is the second largest county in Minnesota and is part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Ramsey County is ethnically and racially diverse, with significant numbers of African American, American Indian, Southeast Asian and Chicano/Latino children. The largest industries in 1994 were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The fastest growing was wholesale trade, increasing by 11% since 1993. In 1994, Ramsey had a per capita personal income of $24,951, the second highest in the state.

Ramsey County was close to the average county in the percent of births to teens and in the rate of out-of-home placements. Ramsey County children fared less well on most other indicators of child well-being. Most of these indicators vary up and down over time without a clear trend. However, the number of arrests for violent crimes increased steadily from 1991 to 1994.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Ramsey County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	20,795	*16.4%*	25,467	*19.7%*	25,275	*19.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	26,707	*35.7%*	30,612	*36.7%*	32,638	*40.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	320	*3.9%*	320	*4.2%*	326	*4.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	485	*5.9%*	500	*6.6%*	491	*6.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	1844	*6.4%*	2,139	*6.5%*	2580	*7.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	325	*26.5%*	565	*40.4%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	1233		1458				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	1545		1652		1710		18,492	
Children dying violently	13		18		15		211	

Red Lake

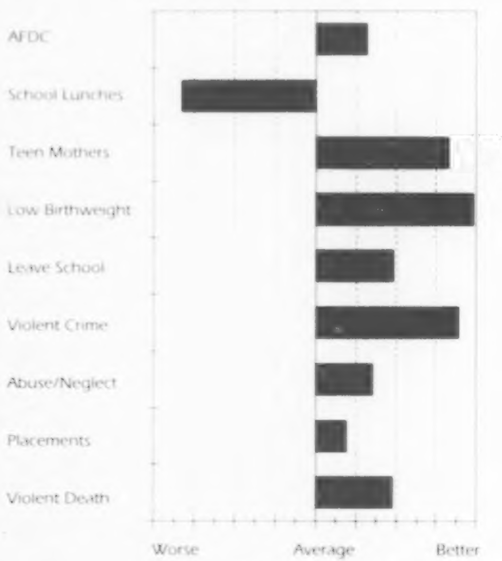
Red Lake County is the fourth smallest county in the state, and is located in northwestern Minnesota. Its per capita income of $13,409 was the second lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and transportation and public utilities. Durable goods manufacturing increased by approximately 14% between 1993 and 1994.

Red Lake County children are doing better than average for most indicators of child well-being. The percent of children born with low birth weight decreased in 1994 and 1995. A relatively high percentage of children received free/reduced-price school lunch, which indicates the presence of low-income children in the county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	4,532
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,356
Estimated % children, 1994	29.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,359
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.2%
Projected population, 2000	4,040

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Red Lake County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	69	*5.1%*	67	*5.0%*	60	*4.4%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	507	*45.0%*	549	*50.0%*	532	*48.0%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1	*2.2%*	0		0		2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*6.7%*	1	*2.1%*	1	*2.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	5	*0.9%*	0		5	*0.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	3		5				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	8		7		11		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		2		0		211	

Redwood

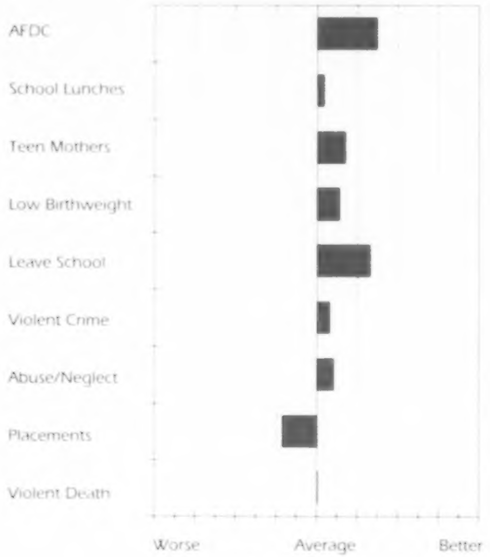
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	17,200
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,824
Estimated % children, 1994	28.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,869
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.9%
Projected population, 2000	15,770

Redwood County is a moderate-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota along the Minnesota River. The Lower Sioux Indian Reservation lies on its border. Its per capita personal income of $19,140 ranked twenty-sixth in the state and increased 21%. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Farming was the fastest growing industry between 1993 and 1994.

Children in Redwood County were very close to the average county on all the measures of child well-being. Births to teens and children born at low birth weight increased slightly over time. The school dropout rate in Redwood County was consistently very low from 1991 to 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Redwood County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Children receiving AFDC	177	*3.6%*	196	*4.1%*	192	*4.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	895	*26.7%*	965	*29.0%*	1087	*30.0%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	2	*0.9%*	7	*3.6%*	6	*2.9%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*2.2%*	7	*3.6%*	10	*4.9%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	15	*1.0%*	21	*1.3%*	23	*1.4%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		7	*25.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	23		25				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	55		79		70		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		2		1		211	

19

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Renville

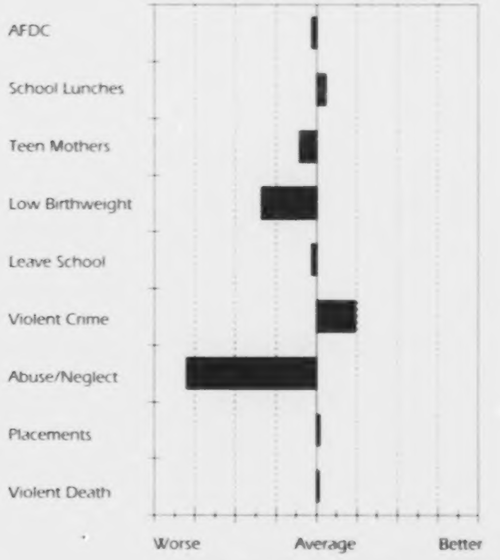
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	17,579
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,939
Estimated % children, 1994	28.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,006
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.3%
Projected population, 2000	16,050

Renville County is a moderate-sized county in south central Minnesota. The Upper Sioux Indian Reservation lies along its border. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, services, and state and local government. Farming income increased the fastest. The county's per capita income of $19,333 increased almost 24% since 1993.

Children in Renville County had low rates of dropping out of school and arrests for violent crimes. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased significantly from 1991 to 1994. The percentage of children born at low birth weight also increased in 1994 and 1995 from earlier levels.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Renville County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	277	*5.5%*	468	*9.5%*	364	*7.4%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	901	*26.8%*	1020	*31.9%*	889	*29.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	5	*2.4%*	5	*2.5%*	9	*4.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*1.4%*	16	*8.1%*	14	*6.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	13	*0.9%*	32	*2.3%*	40	*2.8%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	*20.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	28		52				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	56		56		53		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		1		211	

Rice

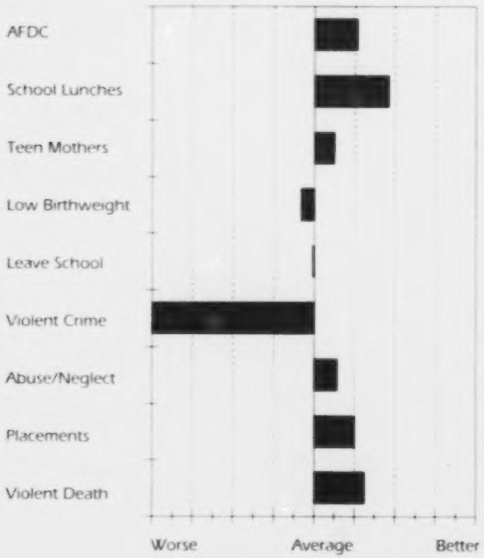
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	52,276
Estimated number of children, 1994	13,826
Estimated % children, 1994	26.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	13,371
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.03
Projected population, 2000	51,650

Rice County is located in the southeast region of Minnesota. During the summer months, the population of Rice County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. It is the fifteenth largest county in the state, and ranked forty-fifth with its 1994 per capita income of $17,818. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Wholesale trade was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 16%.

Children in Rice County fared close to children in the average county for many indicators of child well-being. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased over time. Rice County had a large jump in 1994 in the number and percentage of juvenile arrests for violent crime. However, this may not reflect a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Rice County



Compared to the Average County 1995

194

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	688	*5.2%*	758	*5.5%*	676	*4.9%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2154	*25.2%*	1973	*22.8%*	1872	*21.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	18	*2.8%*	18	*2.8%*	18	*3.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	26	*4.0%*	35	*5.4%*	32	*5.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	126	*3.6%*	147	*3.8%*	106	*2.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	6	*25.0%*	33	*61.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	23		68				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	121		84		98		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		2		1		211	

195

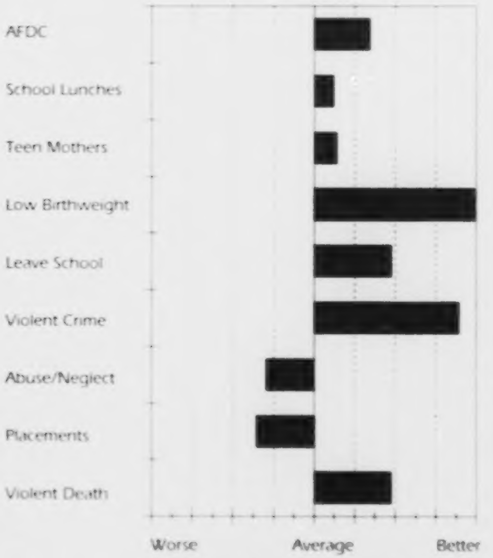
Rock

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	9,901
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,794
Estimated % children, 1994	28.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,784
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.3%
Projected population, 2000	9,100

Rock County is located in the southwest corner of Minnesota, bordering South Dakota and Iowa. It is the fifteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, state and local government, and services. Farming was the fastest growing industry from 1993 to 1994. Rock County's per capita income of $20,258 ranked eleventh in the state.

The percentage of children born at low birth weight in Rock County dropped in 1995, putting the county well ahead of the average county after three years of higher rates. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect were higher than the average county, although they decreased in 1994. The number of children in out-of-home placements increased significantly in 1995, but that may not reflect a longer-term trend.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Rock County

Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	144	*5.2%*	129	*4.6%*	118	*4.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	485	*26.2%*	552	*29.3%*	540	*28.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	3	*2.5%*	4	*3.3%*	3	*3.1%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	2	*1.7%*	6	*4.9%*	2	*2.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	10	*1.2%*	9	*1.0%*	8	*0.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	11		21				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	11		26		47		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		211	

19

197

Roseau

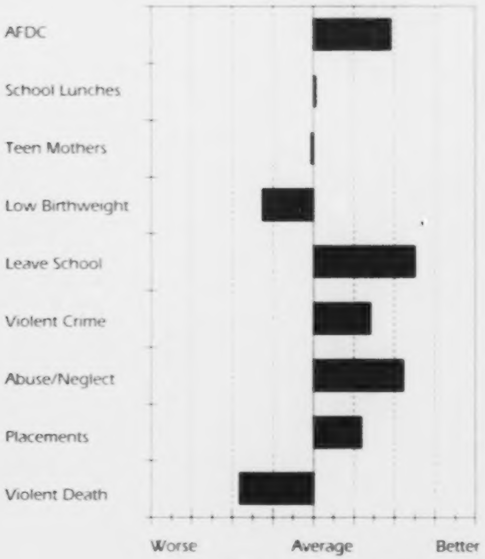
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	15,597
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,843
Estimated % children, 1994	31.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,801
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.9%
Projected population, 2000	16,950

Roseau County, in northern Minnesota, is the fifty-sixth largest county in the state. Its 1994 per capita income of $16,461 ranked sixty-fifth among Minnesota counties. Its largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The durable goods manufacturing industry increased by 17% from 1993 to 1994.

Roseau County had a very low dropout rate compared to the average county, and low numbers of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, violent crime and children receiving AFDC. The percentage of children born at low birth weight increased over time from 1991 to 1995 except for 1993, and Roseau County did worse than the average county on that indicator.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Roseau County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	147	*3.1%*	150	*3.1%*	147	*3.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	997	*29.3%*	1051	*29.2%*	1180	*30.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	5	*2.2%*	10	*3.9%*	10	*3.8%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	11	*4.8%*	13	*5.1%*	17	*6.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	12	*0.8%*	10	*0.6%*	6	*0.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	*16.7%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	16		12				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	25		27		31		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		1		2		211	

St. Louis

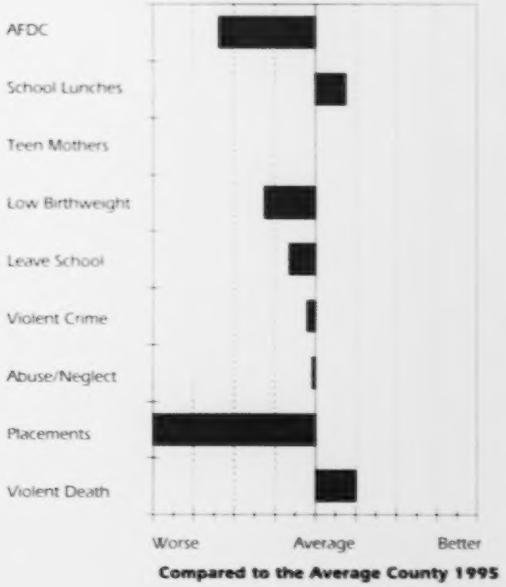
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	199,235
Estimated number of children, 1994	48,658
Estimated % children, 1994	24.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	48,955
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.6%
Projected population, 2000	192,540

St. Louis County is located on the North Shore of Lake Superior in northeast Minnesota, and is part of the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the fifth largest county in Minnesota. Portions of both the Fond du Lac and Nett Lake Indian Reservations are located in the county. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail. Mining was the fastest growing, increasing by more than 12% between 1993 and 1994. Its per capita personal income of $18,721 ranked thirty-fourth in the state.

While St. Louis County had more than the average rate of children receiving AFDC, that rate dropped significantly from 1994 to 1995. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also decreased in 1994. The county's rate of out-of-home placements continued to be higher than the average county, although it decreased from 1994 to 1995. The number of children born at low birth weight increased significantly in 1995, but this may or may not reflect a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in St. Louis County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	7547	*15.4%*	6593	*13.6%*	5929	*12.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	9135	*28.0%*	9197	*28.4%*	8867	*26.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	69	*3.1%*	71	*3.4%*	74	*3.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	106	*4.8%*	109	*5.1%*	128	*6.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	673	*4.1%*	515	*3.2%*	534	*3.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	55	*27.5%*	77	*28.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	510		287				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	1400		1490		1459		18,492	
Children dying violently	11		8		5		211	

201

Scott

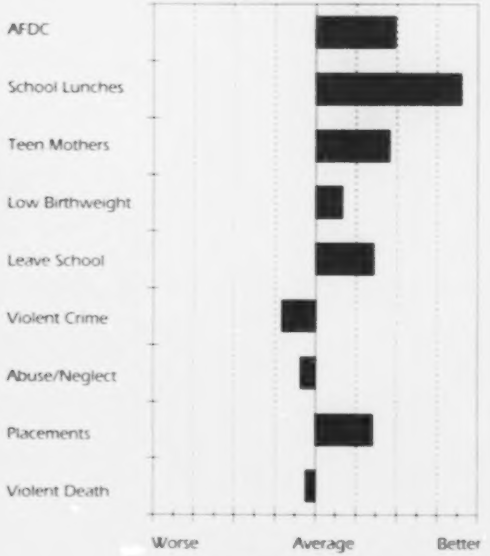
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	68,090
Estimated number of children, 1994	21,201
Estimated % children, 1994	31.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	18,916
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	12.1%
Projected population, 2000	69,770

Scott County comprises the southwest edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area and is the tenth largest county in Minnesota. Prior Lake Indian Reservation is located within the county. Scott County had the seventh highest per capita personal income in the state: $21,490. Services, durable goods manufacturing, and construction were the largest industries in Scott County in 1994. The construction industry increased by almost 22% since 1993.

Children in Scott County did better than children in the average county on most indicators of child well-being. The percent of arrests for violent crime that were children increased from 1991 to 1994 and was higher than the average county. The rate of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect was also higher than the average county, although it decreased from 1992 to 1994.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Scott County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	592	*3.1%*	653	*3.1%*	627	*3.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 9 5, 95-96)	1315	*12.5%*	1597	*13.5%*	1557	*12.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	19	*1.7%*	24	*1.9%*	21	*1.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	57	*5.0%*	70	*5.4%*	60	*4.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	62	*1.3%*	37	*0.7%*	71	*1.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	12	*24.0%*	26	*33.8%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	140		134				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	101		127		116		18,492	
Children dying violently	3		2		5		211	

Sherburne

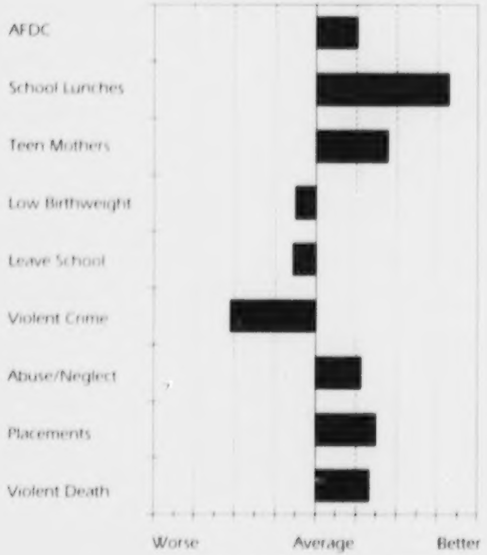
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	50,666
Estimated number of children, 1994	16,114
Estimated % children, 1994	31.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	14,073
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	14.5%
Projected population, 2000	52,650

Sherburne County is located in central Minnesota, on the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the seventeenth largest county in Minnesota, and had a per capita income of $17,029 in 1994. Its largest industries were transportation and public utilities, state and local government, and services. The construction sector of the economy grew the fastest in 1994, increasing by almost 23%.

Children in Sherburne County were doing close to or better than the average county for most indicators of child well-being. The percentage of births at low birth weight increased steadily from 1991 to 1995. The percent of juvenile arrests for violent crimes also increased from 1991 to 1994.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Sherburne County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	675	*4.8%*	772	*4.8%*	797	*5.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1363	*15.6%*	1653	*15.8%*	1521	*13.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*0.8%*	20	*2.5%*	14	*1.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	36	*4.7%*	45	*5.7%*	47	*5.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	119	*3.1%*	107	*2.3%*	160	*3.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	*10.0%*	17	*43.6%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	41		66				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	63		51		82		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		4		1		211	

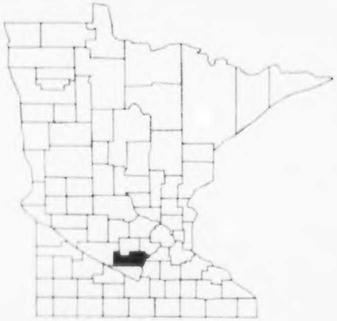
Sibley

Demographics

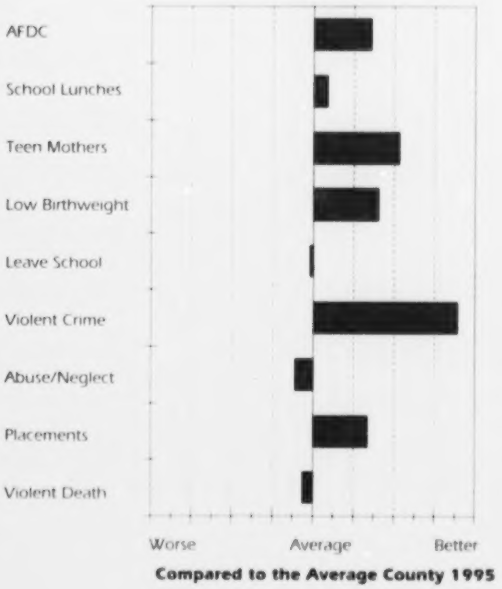
Estimated population, 1994	14,761
Estimated number of children, 1994	4,192
Estimated % children, 1994	28.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,112
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.9%
Projected population, 2000	13,640

Sibley County is a moderate-sized county located in south central Minnesota. Its per capita income of $17,672 placed it forty-seventh among Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1994 were farming, services, and state and local government. Farming income increased significantly from 1993 to 1994.

Children in Sibley County fared better than children in the average county on most indicators of child well-being. The number of children born at low birth weight has decreased since 1992. School dropout rates were somewhat higher in 1994 and 1995, but were close to the average county's rates.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Sibley County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	154	3.8%	210	5.0%	171	4.1%	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	528	22.4%	718	27.5%	785	29.1%	223,893	26.8%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	3	1.5%	5	2.9%	2	1.3%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	9	4.5%	7	4.0%	6	4.0%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	26	2.3%	47	3.6%	34	2.7%	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	31.0%
Children abused and neglected	37		27				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	25		28		24		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		211	

Stearns

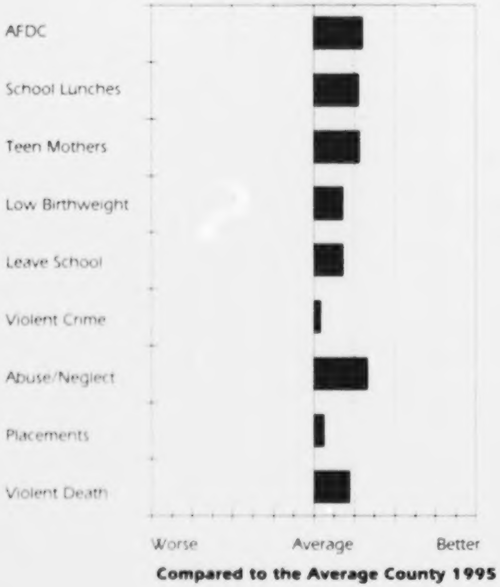
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	125,101
Estimated number of children, 1994	35,412
Estimated % children, 1994	28.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	34,204
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	3.5%
Projected population, 2000	123,900

Stearns County is located in central Minnesota and is part of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the seventh largest county in Minnesota. Its largest industries in 1994 were services, retail, and state and local government. Durable goods manufacturing increased by almost 10% from 1993 to 1994. Stearns County's per capita personal income of $17,172 was the fifty-fifth in the state.

Children in Stearns County did a little better than children in the average county for most indicators of child well-being. The percent of births to teen mothers increased steadily from 1991 to 1995, although it was still better than the average county. The number of children in out-of-home placements also increased sharply in 1994 and 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Stearns County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1697	*5.0%*	1708	*4.8%*	1613	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	6862	*25.6%*	7334	*25.6%*	7055	*25.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	28	*1.7%*	37	*2.3%*	40	*2.4%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	94	*5.6%*	111	*6.8%*	78	*4.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	135	*1.2%*	133	*1.1%*	252	*2.0%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	33	*26.2%*	42	*26.1%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	106		135				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	277		326		357		18,492	
Children dying violently	7		9		4		211	

2

2

Steele

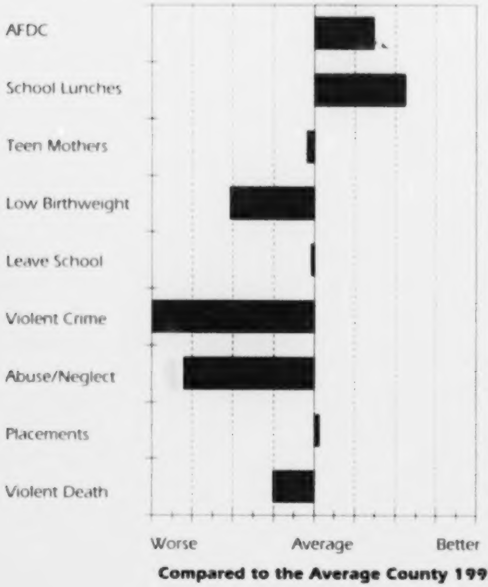
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	32,111
Estimated number of children, 1994	9,320
Estimated % children, 1994	29.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,130
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	2.1%
Projected population, 2000	31,260

Steele County, in southeast Minnesota, is the twenty-ninth largest county in the state. During the summer months, the population of Steele County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Steele County's per capita personal income of $20,505 was the ninth highest in the state. The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing; services; and finance, insurance and real estate. Construction increased 21% from 1993 to 1994.

Children in Steele County were less likely to receive AFDC and free/reduced-price school lunches and had low rates of dropping out of school and out-of-home placements. The number of children born at low birth weight was higher than the average county. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect was also above average, although lower than numbers in 1991 and 1992. A large jump in juvenile arrests for violent crime in 1994 may not indicate a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Steele County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	399	*4.4%*	387	*4.2%*	371	*4.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1181	*18.3%*	1253	*20.6%*	1195	*19.3%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	5	*1.2%*	12	*2.9%*	16	*3.9%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	18	*4.4%*	26	*6.2%*	29	*7.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	54	*1.9%*	67	*2.3%*	83	*2.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	6	*37.5%*	35	*63.6%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	100		98				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	57		109		99		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		0		3		211	

Stevens

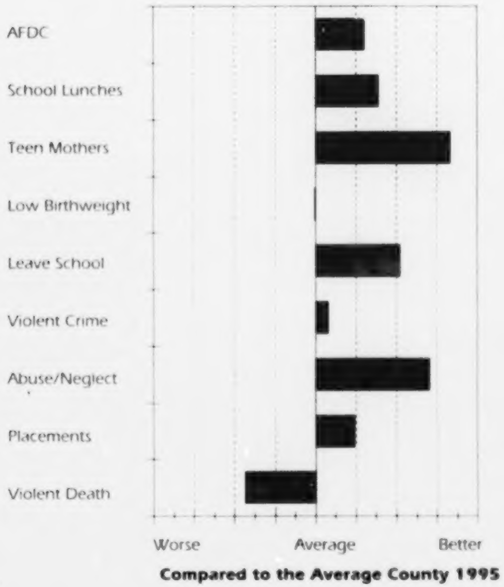
Stevens County is located in west central Minnesota and is the sixteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and farming. The fastest growing industry was farming, which increased significantly from 1993 to 1994. The per capita income of $17,197 ranked fifty-fourth among Minnesota counties.

In general, children in Stevens County did well on most measures of child well-being. No teen births were reported in the county for three of the last five years. The percent of children receiving AFDC, already low, declined over time in line with statewide trends.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	10,447
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,476
Estimated % children, 1994	23.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,527
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-2.0%
Projected population, 2000	9,890

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Stevens County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	144	*5.7%*	116	*4.7%*	113	*4.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	499	*26.1%*	481	*24.4%*	437	*22.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	3	*2.8%*	1	*1.1%*	0		2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	3	*2.8%*	6	*6.9%*	5	*5.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	1	*0.1%*	6	*0.6%*	7	*0.7%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	*25.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	5		4				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	15		16		18		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		211	

Swift

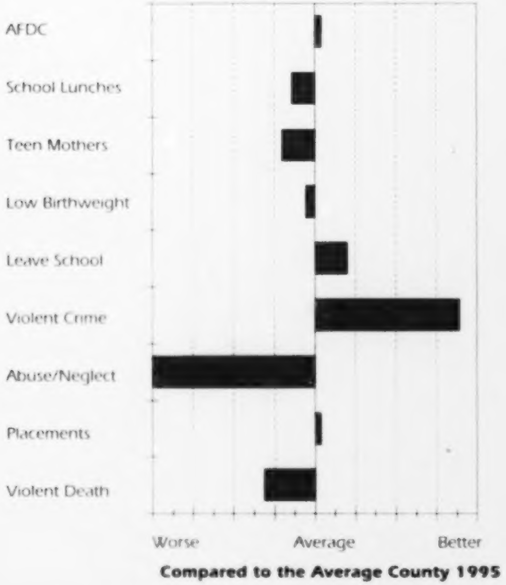
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	10,543
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,856
Estimated % children, 1994	27.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,894
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.3%
Projected population, 2000	9,360

Swift County, located in west central Minnesota, is a moderately small county. The 1994 per capita personal income was $17,660, forty-eighth in the state. The largest industries were state and local government, durable goods manufacturing, and farming. Durable goods manufacturing increased by 33% from 1993 to 1994.

Swift County had a low dropout rate over time and almost no arrests of juveniles for violent crimes. The percent of births that were low birth weight increased in 1994 and 1995 and the number of teen births also rose in 1995. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased in 1994, bringing the county far above the average county for this indicator.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Swift County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	209	*7.2%*	182	*6.4%*	193	*6.8%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	755	*34.8%*	789	*36.5%*	728	*33.8%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	1	*0.7%*	3	*2.5%*	5	*4.6%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*2.1%*	9	*7.4%*	6	*5.6%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	10	*1.2%*	10	*1.1%*	18	*1.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	28		42				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	20		38		30		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		2		1		211	

Todd

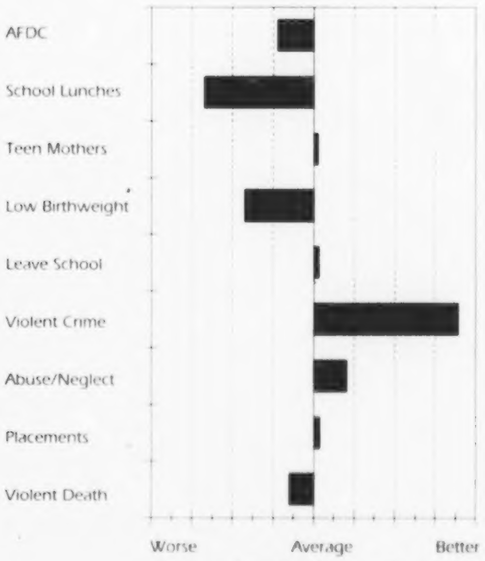
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	23,819
Estimated number of children, 1994	7,226
Estimated % children, 1994	30.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,143
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.2%
Projected population, 2000	22,060

Todd County is a moderate-sized county in the central portion of Minnesota. Its 1994 per capita personal income of $14,497 was fifth lowest in Minnesota. The largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Farming was the fastest growing industry, increasing significantly between 1993 and 1994.

Todd County had no juvenile arrests for violent crime in four of the last five years. The percent of births at low birth weight increased in Todd County and was higher than the average county. The number of children receiving AFDC in Todd County increased from 1991 to 1995, counter to the state trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Todd County



Compared to the Average County 1995

216

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State (* 1994)	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	544	*7.6%*	628	*8.7%*	654	*9.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2280	*47.1%*	2413	*46.2%*	2428	*44.8%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	13	*4.0%*	12	*4.1%*	9	*3.6%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	20	*6.2%*	18	*6.1%*	17	*6.8%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	40	*1.6%*	58	*2.3%*	67	*2.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	43		33				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	40		79		76		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		2		211	

217

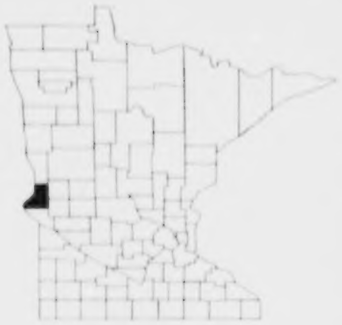
Traverse

Demographics

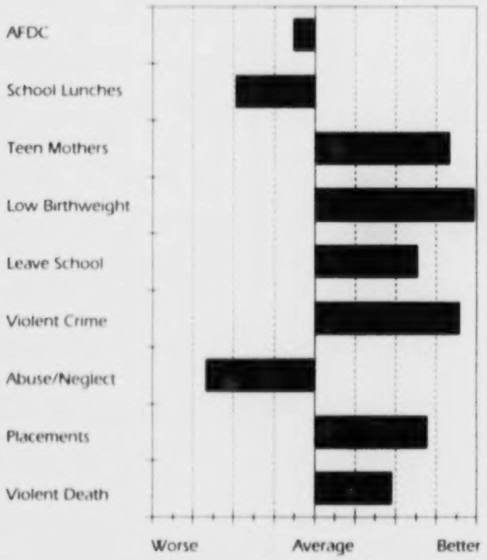
Estimated population, 1994	4,340
Estimated number of children, 1994	1,129
Estimated % children, 1994	26.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,146
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.5%
Projected population, 2000	3,880

Traverse County is located in the west central part of the state on the South Dakota border. It is the third smallest county in Minnesota. The county's per capita personal income of $19,427 ranked twenty-second in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and retail. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing which increased significantly between 1993 and 1994.

Traverse County had no births to teen mothers in four of the last five years. There was a small increase in the percent of children receiving AFDC in 1995, counter to the state trend. The rate of reports of substantiated abuse and neglect did not increase over time, although it was somewhat higher than the average county.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Traverse County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	84	*7.3%*	81	*7.2%*	93	*8.3%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	323	*38.5%*	296	*39.8%*	300	*40.9%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	0		0		0		2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	3	*5.7%*	2	*3.9%*	1	*2.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	-		1	*0.3%*	1	*0.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0				2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	10		11				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	9		9		0		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

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Wabasha

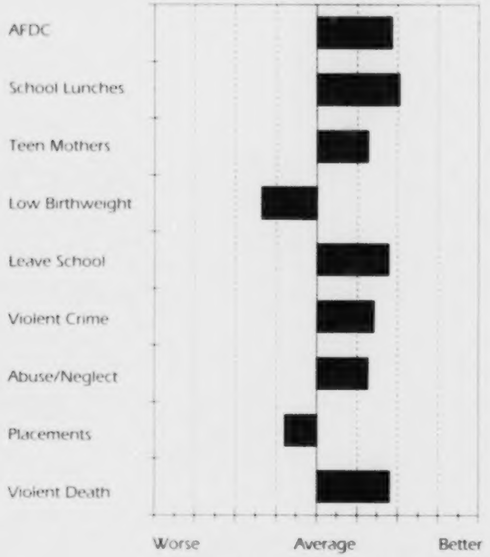
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	20,514
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,893
Estimated % children, 1994	28.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,782
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.9%
Projected population, 2000	20,040

Wabasha County is a mid-sized county located in southeast Minnesota along the Mississippi River. The largest industries in 1994 were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government, and the fastest growing was farming. The county's per capita income of $18,827 ranked thirty-first in the state.

Children in Wabasha County did better than the average county on most indicators of child well-being. The percent of children born at low birth weight was consistently higher than the average county for the last four years. The number of children in out-of-home placements increased in 1994 and 1995, bringing the county to a rate higher than average.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wabasha County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	269	*4.7%*	214	*3.6%*	187	*3.2%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	898	*19.6%*	899	*21.5%*	865	*20.4%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	6	*2.1%*	5	*1.8%*	6	*2.3%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	8	*2.8%*	11	*4.0%*	17	*6.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	12	*0.6%*	22	*1.2%*	20	*1.0%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*33.3%*	1	*16.7%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	36		23				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	51		81		84		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

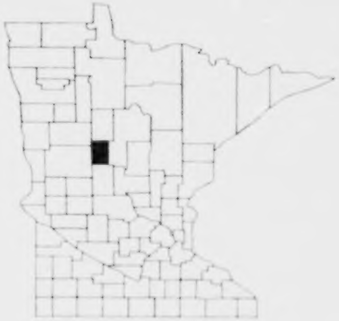
Wadena

Demographics

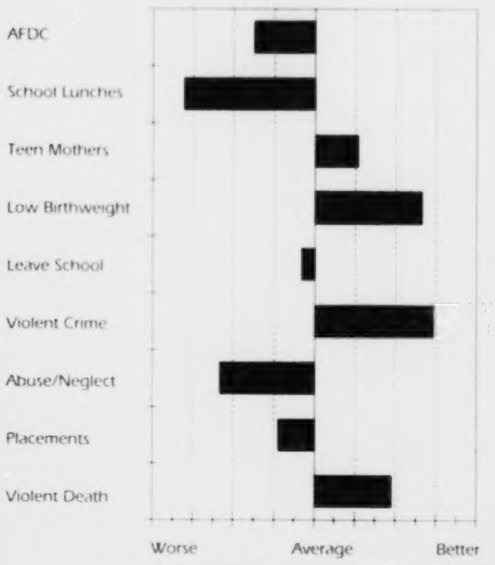
Estimated population, 1994	13,144
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,688
Estimated % children, 1994	28.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,691
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.1%
Projected population, 2000	12,610

Wadena County is a moderately small county in the north central portion of the state. Wadena County had the fourth lowest per capita personal income in the state in 1994: $14,431. The largest industries were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing segment of the economy was transportation and public utilities, which increased by 15%.

Wadena County did better than the average county in the percentage of births to teen mothers and the percentage of children born at low birth weight. The percentage of children receiving AFDC, while higher than the average county, decreased from 1992 to 1995. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect have declined significantly as well, although they are still higher than average. The dropout rate in Wadena County increased steadily over the last five years.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wadena County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	411	*11.2%*	391	*10.6%*	380	*10.3%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1474	*46.6%*	1614	*48.6%*	1592	*47.5%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	5	*2.8%*	8	*5.2%*	4	*2.5%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	6	*3.4%*	8	*5.2%*	5	*3.2%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	13	*0.9%*	36	*2.2%*	49	*3.0%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	*21.4%*	1	*5.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	89		34				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	78		64		54		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		211	

Waseca

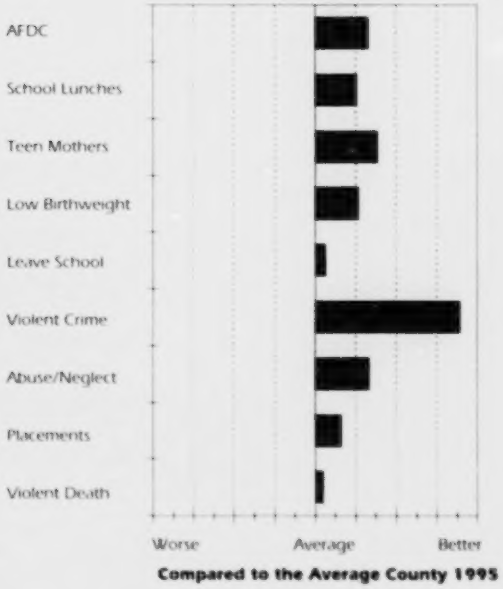
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	18,215
Estimated number of children, 1994	5,243
Estimated % children, 1994	28.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,302
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-1.1%
Projected population, 2000	17,600

Waseca County is a moderate-sized county located in the southeast portion of Minnesota. The largest industries in 1994 were nondurable goods manufacturing, durable goods manufacturing, and services. The durable goods manufacturing sector was the fastest growing. The per capita personal income of $17,922 ranked forty-third in the state.

Children in Waseca County were close to the average county for most indicators of child well-being. The county had a very low rate of juvenile arrests for violent crime. The percentage of children dropping out of school increased slowly from 1991 to 1995 but was still close to the dropout rate for the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Waseca County



	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	286	5.4%	260	5.0%	229	4.4%	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	945	23.4%	1219	26.0%	1171	25.6%	223,893	26.8%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	1.7%	7	3.4%	4	2.0%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	11	4.6%	12	5.9%	9	4.5%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	27	1.5%	45	2.1%	53	2.4%	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	33.3%	0				2,225*	31.0%
Children abused and neglected	38		20				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	53		43		45		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		2		1		211	

Washington

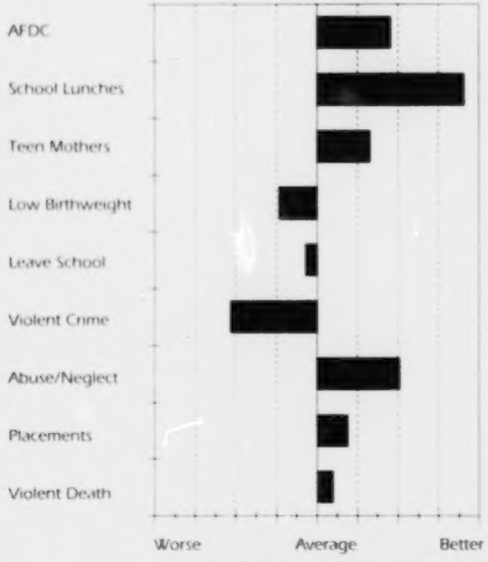
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	176,471
Estimated number of children, 1994	53,728
Estimated % children, 1994	30.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	47,156
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	13.9%
Projected population, 2000	172,110

Washington County is in the eastern part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area and borders Wisconsin. Washington County is the sixth largest county in Minnesota. Its per capita income of $23,099 is the sixth highest in the state. Durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government were the largest industries in 1994. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased by almost 14%.

Washington County children had a very low rate of AFDC use and free / reduced-price school lunch use. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also declined from 1992 to 1994. While the percentage of births to teens was better than the average county, it increased over the last two years. The percent of children born at low birth weight also increased significantly from 1991 to 1995. A jump in the number and percent of juveniles arrested for violent crime in 1994 may not indicate a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Washington County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1856	3.9%	1923	3.6%	1738	3.2%	121,694	9.7%
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	3185	*11.3%*	3692	*12.0%*	3845	*12.1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	45	*2.0%*	46	*1.8%*	57	*2.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	104	*4.5%*	132	*5.2%*	156	*6.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	501	*3.9%*	376	*2.5%*	458	*2.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	64	*29.9%*	87	*43.7%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	219		148				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	371		432		436		18,492	
Children dying violently	7		5		9		211	

Watonwan

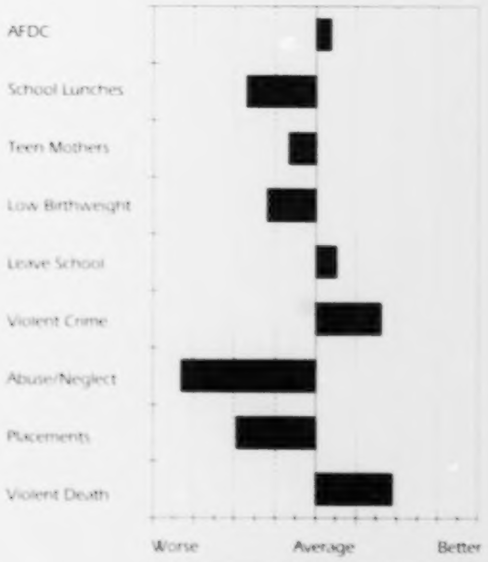
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	12,265
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,556
Estimated % children, 1994	29.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,546
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.3%
Projected population, 2000	11,260

Watonwan County is located in the south central portion of Minnesota, near the Iowa border. The largest industry was non-durable goods manufacturing, followed by farming and services. From 1993 to 1994, there was a significant increase in farming. The $18,776 per capita personal income in Watonwan County ranked thirty-third in the state.

Watonwan County continued to have a low rate of children dropping out of school and a low rate of juveniles arrested for violent crimes. The number of children receiving AFDC increased dramatically between 1991 and 1992, but decreased somewhat since 1993. A steady increase also occurred in the percentage of children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect were higher than in the average county, but fluctuate from year to year and do not show a clear trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Watonwan County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	97	*2.7%*	236	*6.6%*	224	*6.3%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	727	*33.8%*	827	*38.2%*	878	*39.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	5	*2.8%*	10	*6.2%*	7	*4.5%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	11	*6.1%*	7	*4.3%*	10	*6.4%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	16	*1.6%*	25	*2.3%*	24	*2.2%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	*23.1%*	3	*15.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	29		38				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	37		58		67		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		211	

22

Wilkin

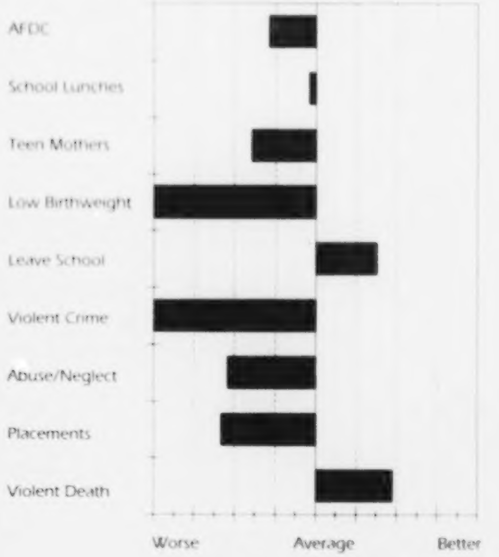
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	7,447
Estimated number of children, 1994	2,109
Estimated % children, 1994	28.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,128
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	-0.9%
Projected population, 2000	6,990

Wilkin County is located in west central Minnesota on the North Dakota border. It is one of the ten smallest counties in the state. During the summer months, the population of Wilkin County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Its per capita personal income of $18,224 was ranked forty-first in 1994. The largest industry was services, followed by state and local government and farming. The service sector increased the fastest, growing by almost 9% since 1993.

Wilkin County continued to have a very low rate of children dropping out of school. The percentage of children receiving AFDC in Wilkin County declined from 1994 to 1995, although the rate was still higher than the average county. The percent of births to teens declined in 1994 and 1995 after increases in 1992 and 1993. The percent of children born at low birth weight in 1995 and the percent of children arrested for violent crimes in 1994 both increased sharply, but this may not indicate longer-term trends.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wilkin County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	215	*10.1%*	238	*11.3%*	202	*9.6%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	562	*35.2%*	619	*35.8%*	538	*31.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	*4.3%*	2	*2.1%*	4	*5.5%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	*5.4%*	3	*3.2%*	8	*11.0%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	8	*1.2%*	14	*1.8%*	10	*1.3%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		9	*60.0%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	35		19				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	41		56		43		18,492	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		211	

Winona

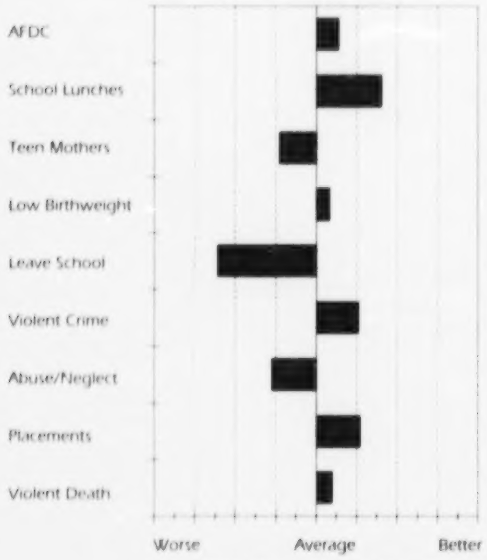
Winona County is located in the southeastern area of Minnesota, bordering the Mississippi River. The per capita personal income of Winona County was $18,823 in 1994, ranking thirty-second in the state. The largest industries in Winona County were durable goods manufacturing, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased 13%.

Children in Winona did better than children in the average county in use of free/reduced-price school lunch, low birthweight babies, arrests for violent crime and the rate of out-of-home placements. The number of children dropping out of school increased steadily from 1992 to 1995 and was above the average county rate. After three years of decline, the percentage of births to teens rose in 1995, which may not reflect a longer-term trend.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	48,695
Estimated number of children, 1994	12,029
Estimated % children, 1994	24.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,910
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	1.0%
Projected population, 2000	48,070

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Winona County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	750	*6.3%*	756	*6.3%*	716	*6.0%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	1855	*23.1%*	1933	*25.0%*	1838	*22.6%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	21	*3.4%*	9	*1.6%*	27	*4.7%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	38	*6.2%*	24	*4.3%*	29	*5.1%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	114	*3.7%*	118	*3.9%*	155	*4.9%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		7	*19.4%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	69		89				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	67		71		81		18,492	
Children dying violently	2		1		2		211	

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Wright

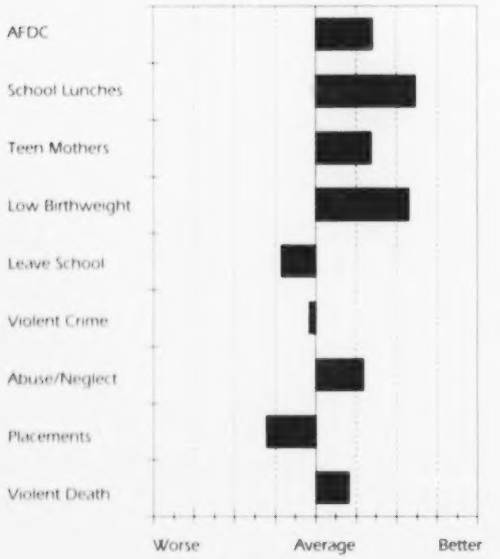
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	76,850
Estimated number of children, 1994	25,041
Estimated % children, 1994	32.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	23,230
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	7.8%
Projected population, 2000	76,820

Wright County is located in the western portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area. It is one of the ten largest counties in Minnesota, and its largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, retail, and durable goods manufacturing. Construction was the fastest growing segment of the economy, increasing by 15%. Wright County had a per capita income of $18,685, ranking thirty-fifth in the state.

Wright County children were less likely than children in the average county to be teen mothers or be born at low birth weight. Out-of-home placements increased between 1994 and 1995, in contrast to the state trend. The school dropout rate jumped in 1995, but that may not reflect a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wright County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	1081	*4.7%*	1131	*4.5%*	1032	*4.1%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	2591	*17.4%*	3001	*18.6%*	3015	*18 1%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	24	*2.0%*	36	*3.0%*	26	*2.2%*	2,023	*3.2%*
Children born at low birth weight	51	*4.2%*	41	*3.4%*	41	*3.5%*	3,709	*5.9%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	118	*1.8%*	123	*1.6%*	279	*3.5%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*3.0%*	16	*28.6%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	119		101				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	244		363		399		18,492	
Children dying violently	4		10		3		211	

Yellow Medicine

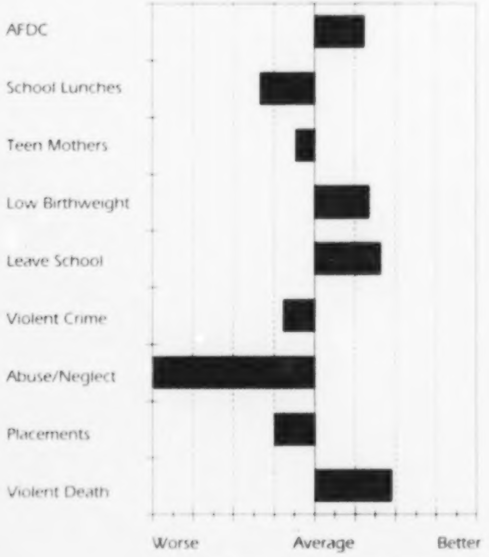
Demographics

Estimated population, 1994	11,773
Estimated number of children, 1994	3,180
Estimated % children, 1994	27.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,180
% change in number of children, 1991-1994	0.0%
Projected population, 2000	10,520

Yellow Medicine County is located on the South Dakota border in the southwestern portion of Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $18,657 increased 26% from 1993 and ranked thirty-sixth in the state. The largest industries were farming, services, and state and local government. From 1993 to 1994, the retail trade industry increased by almost 11%.

Yellow Medicine County continued to have a low rate of dropping out of school. AFDC rates also declined over time, although use of free/reduced-price school lunch remained higher than the average county. Although substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect were higher than for the average county, these reports declined between 1993 and 1994.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Yellow Medicine County



Compared to the Average County 1995

	1991 Base Year		1994		1995		1995 State * 1994	
Family Economics								
Children receiving AFDC	194	*6.1%*	183	*5.8%*	144	*4.5%*	121,694	*9.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 94-95, 95-96)	888	*37.1%*	933	*39.7%*	903	*37.7%*	223,893	*26.8%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers (% of all births)	4	3.2%	3	2.3%	5	4.2%	2,023	3.2%
Children born at low birth weight	4	3.2%	6	4.6%	5	4.2%	3,709	5.9%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 94-95)	10	*1.0%*	13	*1.2%*	13	*1.1%*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*12.5%*	4	*0.3%*			2,225*	*31.0%*
Children abused and neglected	21		37				10,434*	
Children in out-of-home placements	30		45		48		18,492	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		211	

Data Notes

Demographic Information. 1994 population estimates are created by using five-year age estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, and using a population distribution formula from the 1990 census to develop an under-18 estimate.

Data About Children Of Color. Data about children of color is collected using many different methods. Parents might identify their race or the race of their children, race may be determined by others based on a visual determination, or a combination of these methods may be used. Furthermore, different categories are used to classify children by race. Some indicators treat "Hispanic" as a separate ethnic designation rather than a race, while others do not. KIDS COUNT has attempted to identify whether or not "children of color" includes Chicano/Latino children for a particular indicator.

Accepted names for various racial and ethnic groups are constantly in flux and once again, indicators differ in their terminology. KIDS COUNT has tried to use widely accepted terms that generally match the categories in which most of the data is collected.

Finally, children of color are often undercounted and unmeasured. Families may be mistrustful of providing information to the government. Children of migrant farmworkers may not be adequately represented because they are only in Minnesota part of the year. Data collectors may not be fluent in the parent's language or may determine race for a child incorrectly. Thus, data about children of color in Minnesota should be interpreted with caution.

Children Receiving AFDC is the monthly average of all children receiving Aid to Families With Dependent Children payments between July 1 and June 30 of the selected fiscal years. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The percent of children receiving AFDC is the number of children receiving AFDC divided by the estimated total number of children.

Children Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price School Lunches is the number of children who have been approved to receive these meals in October of each school year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. Public and many private schools are represented. Not all eligible children participate in this program. The percent of children eligible is the number of children approved for meals divided by the total school enrollment.

Children Born to Teenage Mothers is the number of infants born to women who were less than age 18 at the time of the child's birth. It is provided by The Center for Health Statistics of the Minnesota Department of Health, based on information collected from birth certificates. The percent of children born to teenage mothers is the number of children born to teenage mothers divided by the total number of births.

Children Born at Low Birth Weight is the number of babies weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth. It is provided by The Center for Health Statistics of the Minnesota Department of Health, based on information collected from birth certificates. The percent of children born at low birth weight is the number of low birth weight children divided by the total number of births.

(continued on page 116)

(continued from page 115)

Children Dropping Out of School is the number of students who were enrolled in school during the previous school year and were not enrolled by October 1 of the current school year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. This definition was new as of the 1993-94 school year; previously, a student was counted as "dropping out" if they were not enrolled by the beginning of the next school year. School districts are assigned to the county where their district offices are located. The percent of students dropping out is the number of students dropping out divided by the total enrollment of grades 7-12.

Children Arrested for Violent Crime is the number of children arrested for murder, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. It is provided by the Criminal Justice Center at Minnesota Planning, from statistics collected by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. The percent of children arrested for violent crime is the number of children arrested divided by the total number of arrests for violent crime.

Children Abused and Neglected is the number of children for whom a report of child abuse or neglect was substantiated by a county child protection worker. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services from statistics collected by counties. Substantiated abuse means that the local social service agency has conducted an assessment in response to a report and has found that maltreatment occurred.

Children in Out-of-Home Placements is the unduplicated number of children who were placed in foster care, group homes, emergency shelter or residential treatment facilities during the year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services from statistics collected by counties.

Children Dying Violently is the number of children dying from murder, suicide and other injuries such as motor vehicle crashes, drowning and falls. It is provided by the Center for Health Statistics at the Minnesota Department of Health using information on death certificates.

About the Graphs for Counties

The graphs allow comparison of multiple indicators within a county. At a glance, you are also able to see how a county compares to the state average for each indicator. The "Minnesota Average" is the mean of all the county data points. Each thinner line represents one standard deviation above or below the average.

Comparing distributions that are expressed in different units is accomplished by using standard scores also known as z-scores. Standard scores are generated for each indicator by computing the difference between each data point and the mean (the sum of all county values divided by the number of counties) and dividing it by the standard deviation (a measure of the degree to which the scores cluster around the mean.) The resulting z-score has a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of one.

Other Resources

This book is available electronically on the University of Minnesota Children, Youth and Family Consortium web site at: *www.cyfc.umn.edu/Kidscount97*.

More Local Data

Minnesota Student Survey (information about students in grades 6, 9 and 12)
For county information, call Minnesota Prevention Resource Center, (800) 247-1303.
For local school district information, call your local superintendent's office.
Substance Abuse Monitoring System (information about tobacco, alcohol and other drug use). Call for information about your county: (612) 296-2311
Center for Health Statistics, Minnesota Department of Health: (612) 623-5353
Search Institute (information about developmental assets): (612) 376-8955

State Advocacy Resources

Children's Defense Fund-MN: (612) 227-6121
Joint Religious Legislative Coalition: (612) 870-3670
Minnesota Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention: (612) 771-5040; (800) 657-3697

Minnesota Legislature:
House: (612) 296-2146
Senate: (612) 296-0504

On-Line

Minnesota KIDS COUNT 1997 Data Book: *http://www.cyfc.umn.edu/Kidscount97*
Bureau of the Census: *http://www.census.us*
Children's Defense Fund-Washington, DC: *http://www.tmn.com/cdf/index.html*
Children, Youth and Family Consortium Electronic Clearinghouse: *http://www.fsci.umn.edu/cyfc/cyfc.html*
Minnesota Planning Children's Report Card and other data: *http:www.mnplan.state.mn.us*
Minnesota Extension Service: *http://www.mes.umn.edu*
Minnesota Legislature: *http://www.leg.state.mn.us*
U.S. House of Representatives: *http://www.house.gov*
U.S. Senate: *http://www.senate.gov*

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☐ Educator
☐ Other ______________

2. For what purpose do you use the data book? (Check all that apply)

☐ Research
☐ Grant Writing
☐ General Background Information
☐ Policy Advocacy
☐ Other ______________

3. How often do you use the data book?

☐ Daily
☐ Weekly
☐ Monthly
☐ Occasionally
☐ One-Time Use
☐ Never

4. How useful were the following sections of the data book? (Please circle)

	Very Useful		Somewhat Useful		Not Useful At All
Discussion Questions	5	4	3	2	1
Indicators of Risk	5	4	3	2	1
County Profiles	5	4	3	2	1
Data Sources & Resources	5	4	3	2	1

5. What additional information would you like to see in upcoming KIDS COUNT databooks?

6. What could be done to improve the data book?

Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look

kids
count
minnesota

Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Congregations Concerned for Children, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition,
122 West Franklin Ave., Suite 315, Minneapolis, MN 55404; 612/870-3670

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